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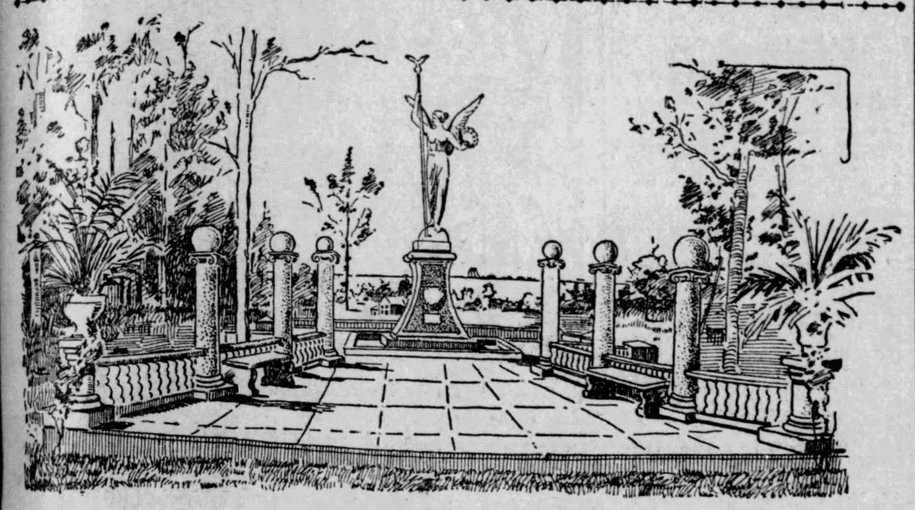
Monument to Commodore Perry



VICTORY MONUMENT AT PUT-IN BAY.

Put-in Bay, nature's beauty spot, will be made more beautiful and attractive than ever next year by a monument which is being erected in recognition of Commodore Perry's great victory near the island. The monument is being put up at an expense of more than $2,000, most of which has already been raised by popular subscription.

The statue is of the Goddess of Victory and is a reproduction of Alphonse Telzer's masterpiece. It will be made of copper bronze with the antique oxidized finish. The statue alone is ten feet high and is mounted on a twelve-foot pedestal of the beautiful and peculiar natural stone of the island. The pedestal will bear inscriptions telling of the victory. The wings of the goddess are two feet high and have a spread of seven feet from tip to tip.

The entire statue is mounted on a battlement wall foundation and parapet arrangement, the parapet being twenty-six and a half feet square. It is enclosed by a stone balustrade with stone abutments or posts at regular intervals. A grass line surrounds the pedestal in which will be planted flowers and green sod.

The approach to the monument is in peristyle effect. It is fledged with six pillars with tops surmounted by large glass globes with which to illuminate the spot at night. The columns are graduated in height, the tallest being nine feet and ranging from that down to the six-foot pedestals which will be surmounted with stone jardinieres for flowers. These are all connected by the balustrades.

The approach is twenty feet deep and thirty feet across the front with concave sides and a convex front. A five-foot walk on the parapet encircles the statue so that it may be viewed from all sides.

FROST NOT ON THE PUNKIN.

Here's a song of Colorado
When the chilly breezes blow,
Where a fellow draws his lungs full
Of fresh air that's tinged with snow.
Here's a song of Colorado,
She's God's country I declare,
When the sun is shining on her
And the frost
is
in
the
air.

Here's a song of Colorado.
Where you breathe clear down to Z.
Other states may have their virtues—
She's the only one for me
They say heaven's mighty pretty,
But I believe this state's as fair
When the sun's on Colorado
And the frost
is
in
the
air.

—Denver Post.

DID YOU EVER SEE A SUNFLOWER FARM?

They Have Them Out West and They Yield $26 an Acre.

A sunflower farm is rather a novelty in the agricultural line. An Iowa farmer this past season planted five acres, all in one field, to sunflowers. It made the most gorgeous crop in the state.

The seed was put in with a corn planter and the field was afterward cultivated as if it had been a cornfield. The entire crop was contracted for in advance by a seed firm.

The yield was about 1,500 pounds of seed to the acre. The price was from $1.75 to $2 a hundredweight.

Even at the lower price this would bring a revenue of more than $26 an acre. As a sort of extra profit the stalks made good kindling wood for winter mornings.

Sunflower seed is used as a stock food and is said to be liked by parrots. It yields a good oil also. There are several sunflower farms in the middle west.—Milwaukee Wisconsin.

SALMON FAMILY OF ALASKA

"There is nothing more curious connected with the finny tribe than to watch the doings of the salmon family in Alaska," said Frank Watson, of that territory.

"The most singular things of all is that after the females deposit their spawn their earthly career terminates, and I have seen the bottoms of creeks covered with their dead bodies. They give birth to thousands of their kind and immediately die. The young ones are then taken care of by the male salmon, and it is a well known fact that in three years from their birth the offspring reappear on the very ground of their origin. There are four varieties of this superb fish which make their appearance in regular order of succession.

"In the spring the first to arrive is the magnificent king salmon, which weighs all the way from fifteen to ninety pounds. I have myself caught one weighing fifty-two pounds. About June 1 comes the sockey, or red salmon, which visits our shores in enormous numbers and which is the common canning variety. A little later appears the log salmon, which only the Indians will eat, and finally, in August and September, the beautiful silver salmon arrives, the prettiest fish in all the world and one of the most palatable.

"When the salmon enter the fresh water, by a curicus trick of nature their skin becomes red, but this pink hue does not affect the whiteness of their flesh. It is seldom that salmon will journey up a glacier stream, but the streams that have lakes at their heads literally swarm with them."

WHEN BREWING BEGAN.

There has been no nation, no matter how uncivilized, that at one time or another has not made and used intoxicating liquors. The art of brewing was practiced by the ancient Egyptians, and later by the Greeks, Romans and Gauls.

The Anglo-Saxon and English have long been considered pre-eminent masters of the art of brewing liquors. The ale made by the monks in ancient times was prized most highly, and ever since the production of liquors has been increasing. In 1585 there were 26 large breweries in London, which brewed 49,000 barrels of beer annually. In 1892 over 32,000,000 barrels were brewed.

THE CARE OF SHOES.

Shoes may be kept up to the mark by rubbing the tops with a piece of black cloth dipped in a solution of cream and black ink, and by polishing the lower portion vigorously with a piece of old flannel. An old pair of shoes, if treated in this way, and all missing buttons replaced, will make a good appearance, particularly if before this is done they have been taken to the cobbler's to have the heels straightened.—Exchange.

Visit to the Cheshire Cheese

LAST OF THE TAVERNS OF LITERARY FAME

It is an accepted fact that Englishmen are so used to the historic beauties in monument and atmosphere which surround them that they pay little attention to these, having become accustomed, as it were, to the ticking of the old clock.

A remarkable example of this is the case of that tavern in Fleet street. Ye Olde Cheshire cheese where every day of the European season crowds of Americans make a pilgrimage, and where, comparatively speaking, few Englishmen go.

And yet this is one of the places of importance in the literary history of England. It was the last of these taverns where literary masters gathered. Its age is a matter of doubt, for it was rebuilt after the fire of London, but since that time the "Cheese" has accumulated enough history to place it at the top of the antique tree which one loves to climb for a day-dream.

Here Ben Johnson threw jest and comment among his friends; here the "quaint and curious" Herrick recited his odd verses in the intervals when he was not at the Mermaid; here Dr. Samuel Johnson roared his retorts, epigrams and "dispute-'em-if-dare" assertions.

Here, too, sat Oliver Goldsmith on one side, quiet and unobtrusive, but when he did open his mouth "saying something," and on the other side, they say, sat Boswell, drinking in the words of the lexicographer and mentally noting them for the biography. Ale flowed like water and these men drifted with the stream.

The old "Cheese" is in Wine court, between two little alleys running off Fleet street. The sun never gets in there, but the dim shdaows of the place lend to the enchantment of its atmosphere. Here ghosts—rollicking ghosts—shout uproariously through the silence, and here were born over a tankard of English beer some of the thoughts and sayings which, embodied into literary productions, have come to be revered by millions who have never seen their birthplaces.

The Wine court alley is the main entrance. Goldsmith lived at No. 6 and there wrote "The Vicar of Wakefield." The entrance to the tavern which he loved is across the alley, and leads into a low-celled room, sub-divided with numerous partitions that make the cosey corners so dear to the men who frequented them.

To the left is the bar, to the right the dining-room, the counters, tables, chairs, and walls, which are all nicked, elbow-rubbed, and black with age. No line that is straight meets the eye; the whole impression is of sinking foundations and warping wood. From the center arises a spiral, step-worn flight of stairs ascending to the kitchen and an upper dining room where on other days the worthies smoked their church-warden pipes by the gridiron.

That is the old tavern, the walls of which are adorned with pictures of Johnson and other celebrities. Pen-and-ink sketches by and of later famous men who ate and drank there, and doggerel bits of wit inscribed with pencil, quill, and knife, are features of the mahogany boards.

Waiter at the Cheshire Cheese,
Uncertain, gruff and hard to please,
When tuppence smooths thy angry brow,
A ministering angel thou.

In the upper dining room is Johnson's old armchair, but on the lower floor, where he usually sat, a brass plate records the fact:

> The Favourite Seat of Dr. Samuel Johnson.
>
> Born 18th Sept., 1709.
> Died 13th Dec., 1784.
>
> In him a noble understanding, and a masterly intellect, were united with grand independence of character, and unfailing goodness of heart, which won the admiration of his own age, and remain as recommendations to the reverence of posterity.

"No, sir!" he bellowed from the head of the table below that tablet, "there is nothing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness has been produced as by a good tavern."

And, indeed, such a tavern as this tends to the temporary happiness of any man of imagination, even if he does not visit the bar where today the newspaper men and barristers from the Fleet Street "shops" the Temple, and the Inns quote and misquote—all inspired by the atmosphere and other things.

There is a good deal of wit and other cleverness here. In fact, it is an unwritten rule of the "Cheese" that its habitues shall be clever in some entertaining way. The rule need not be written, for only the clever can fully appreciate the clever and the dullard freezes himself out and is glad to get away. If he does not realize that he is out of his element, he is apt to catch a hint from the front page of the visitors' books:

Here visitors should write their names
and say
All that they think about the Cheshire
Cheese.
Your artists here their talents may display,
Your men of letters write here what they
please.
But should some dullard turn these
pages o'er,
Let him mark, wonder—but add nothing
more.

The host of the tavern keeps a record of every witticism he hears in the place. Not so long ago, two Scots met in the bar.

"Tam," said one, "d'ye think it's ower early for a drink?"

"Decidedly," replied Tam, "besides I've had two already."

Some of the household jokes of the "Cheese" have been handed down from the time of Ben Jonson. It was here, they say, that one of the habitues, in a challenge contest as to who could make a couplet the quickest, said:

"I, Sylvester,
Kissed your sister."
Ben Jonson quickly retorted:
"I, Ben Jonson,
Kissed your wife."

"But that isn't rhyme," Sylvester protested.

"No," said Jonson, "but it's true."

It is, in fact, not a difficult matter to conjure a picture of the Tavern's old days, even before the Fire of London. The roaring, sputtering blaze under the fizzling roast, the lights and shadows gleaming on the faces of great men, and a queer little poet, appointed by acclamation, reading his latest poem of praise to Ben Jonson:

Ah, Ben!
Say how and when
Shall we, thy guests,
Meet at these lyric feasts
Made at the Sun,
The Cheese, the Triple Tun,
Where we such clusters had,
As made us nobly wild, not mad?
And yet each verse of time
Outdid the meat, outdid the frolic wine.

Just who they were—these men by the fire—can easily be imagined by a study of contemporary literature. The genius of Chatterton, Voltaire, Pope, Congreve, Garrick, Dickens, Thackeray and Hood flashed here, and in later days came Douglas Jerrold, Edmund Yates, George Augustus Sala and Tennyson. And then there was one who, in his own sphere of usefulness, was as great as any of them—old William the waiter. He was the "only William" of London, and since his death, which plunged the "Cheese" and its habitues into mourning for weeks, no person by the name of William has been employed in the tavern, as a mark of respect to the dead henchman.

It is recorded of William that when the pudding, for which the "Cheese" is famous, was being served, he hobbled around the table offering further helpings.

"Any gentleman say pudden?" he cried.

"No gentleman says pudden," growled a surly customer.

"Of course, you've 'ad two 'elps already sir," was William's retort.

Talking of "pudden" there is really only one word which the tavern's parrot can clearly articulate. On one occasion it got away and flew all over London. It was advertised and after three days a man came to the "Cheese" and asked for the good host, "Charlie" Moore.

"I caught a parrit," said he.

Moore described it. It was the "Cheese" parrot, undoubtedly. But the man was not convinced.

"You forgot something," said he. "Don't your parrot say a word?"

"Yes, it says 'pudden.'"

"That's your parrit, sir," said the man. It's been on the roof of the 'ole bloomin' night, yellin' 'pudden!' till you'd 'a thort it was Christmas. Come 'n' take your bird away?"

These are some of the "Cheese" annals from Ben Jonson to the parrot. The parrot is alive still, and most of the other "Cheesetes" are dead, but otherwise the tavern is the same as it was yesterday, except that where Dr. Samuel Johnson smoked his long, clay pipe, the exploring and reverential American sits the chair.

The other night a New Yorker reigned at the head of the plate, with his family ranged along each side of the board. He had eaten the tavern's food and was quietly puffing at a church warden pipe. Charles, the host, approached and asked if he felt the spirit of Dr. Samuel upon him.

"Mm'well," said the American, "It may be the peace of Samuel, or it may be the soul of the pudding, but I've got a strong suspicion it's the ale!"

Which goes to show that the "Cheese" hath other than mental blandishments. —Stephen Chalmers, in the New York Post.

But Soon.

"Come, don't be foolish," said the pretty young wife, "he's merely an old flame of mine."

"Indeed!" cried her aged but wealthy husband. "I'll warrant you dream of his tender advances yet."

"No," she replied, with a faraway look, "not yet."—Philadelphia Record.

Hid Treasure.

"Thought you said you were a mind reader?" said the caller.

"So I am," replied the professor.

"Well, why do you hesitate? Why don't you read my mind?"

"I'm searching for it." — Yonkers Statesman.

KNEW KIT CARSON.

Jim Bridger's True Stories Which Nobody Believed.

The first white girl baby born within the territory that is now the state of Kansas is living in Kansas City. She is 76 years old. She is Mrs. Susan A. Dillon. Her father built the first dwelling in Westport.

"My father was Daniel Yoacham," said Mrs. Dillon. "He moved from Tennessee in 1829. He had not been married long. My mother's cousin, Major John Campbell, was Indian agent at the Shawnee Indian agency, which was a half mile east of where the ruins of Shawnee mission stand. My father and his bride came here and lived in that house for nearly a year while my father was looking around and deciding where to settle.

"In that Indian post trader's house I was born. There lived with the agent Captain Parks, chief of the Shawnees, and many of them were camped around the agency. I was the first white baby they had ever seen, and they simply went wild over me. The squaws made me moccasins and clothing and wraps made of buckskin beautifully embroidered and decorated. They adopted me into the tribe. Until I was grown and had married they treated me as one of their own.

"My father took up a government claim embracing all the land where Westport is now, and much more. At that time the only building in all the territory covered by Westport was a little log store kept by an Indian trader. My father built a large hotel, and it was the second building there. It stood where the corner of Mill street and Westport avenue is now. It was built of walnut logs and was two stories high. It was known as Yoacham's tavern. There I lived until I was married.

"My father was a very popular man and much beloved. He was known as 'Honest Squire Yoacham.' He was the first justice of the peace in all this western country. He performed all the earliest marriage ceremonies in this part of the country. People came hundreds of miles to be married by him.

"I remember Kit Carson very well indeed. He came east and stopped at my father's hotel for several weeks. He had married a squaw of the 'Root Eater' tribe of Indians, and they had a little girl. He had this litle girl with him and was taking her back east to be educated. He bought her outfit and had her dresses made in our house. She came to us dressed in buckskin and left dressed in as fine goods as could be bought then upon the border. She was about my age and was uncivilized. She pulled up all my mother's vines and was chewing the roots when we found her at it.

"Kit Carson was a nice looking man, of mild manners and a strong face. All of those old pioneers were mild-mannered men.

"Many a time I listened to old Jim Bridger's wonderful stories of the then unexplored west. He was one of the earliest and greatest trappers, Indian fighters and scouts. He was known in Westport as the greatest liar that ever lived, but I don't think now that he told many lies. One of his greatest 'whoppers' was about a petrified forest that he had seen away out west. We know now that he told the truth about that, but no one believed him then, and I've heard many a laugh about Jim Bridger's 'yarn' of the petrified trees, leaves and even petrified birds singing in the branches. Of course, Bridger didn't tell all that; it was added on by the people who heard him talk."—Kansas City Star.

SHE CAN STILL HUSK CORN AT 91

Mrs. Laura Ann Owen, while celebrating her ninety-first birthday anniversary, arose from the dinner in her honor and spoke of being in unusually good health for one so far advanced in years. She said she believed she had the strength to do the work which she performed daily 50 years ago.

Some of the relatives questioned her ability to do this, which made Mrs. Owen anxious to prove that she had not yet outlived her usefulness. Throwing a shawl over her head and shoulders and donning a pair of gloves Mrs. Owen went to the farm and husked a row of corn around a 30-acre field without stopping to rest. She accomplished the feat in only a little longer time than an active man would have done the work, and she did not seem to be much fatigued.—Noblesville Cor., Indianapolis News.

PROGRESS OF DENTISTRY.

Though dentistry became a science under the hand of Professor Richard Owen as late as 1839, there are evidences that it was practiced in a crude way by the ancients. Herodotus refers to treatment of the teeth by the Egyptians, and evidences of attempts to supply artificial teeth have been discovered in ancient skulls and mummies.

Galen was the first physician to speak of treatment of troublesome teeth, and Ambrose Parl, in his work on surgery, in 1550, makes mention of the preservation of the teeth. It is only in the last 60 years that dentistry has become a branch of surgical science, however. Before that time bad teeth were extracted, and mere tooth drawing constituted dentistry early in the nineteenth century. The first dental school in the United States was erected at Baltimore in 1839. In 1845 Cincinnati boasted of a similar institution, and in 1856 a dental school was erected at Philadelphia.

THE Pillar of Light

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By LOUIS TRACY,
Author of "The Wings of the Morning."

CHAPTER XVIII—(Continued.)

He passed a hand over his eyes and gazed again at the moonlit roadway. From the black shadows opposite a policeman crossed toward the hotel, and he heard a bell ring. These trivial tidings restored his wandering thoughts. How the discovery of his lost child had brought back a flood of buried memories!

"It is easy to understand that I should be fanciful tonight," he said, returning to the cheery glow of the fire and the brightness of the room. "The whole story of the disaster centered in the narratives of the sailors and the negro. They all declared that both boats went down. The crew of the barque, who ran to starboard, as the leading boat was swamped and sank on that side, imagined they heard cries to port. But though they lowered a boat, and cruised about the locality for hours, they found nothing but wreckage. You, Charlie, when I went to St. John's five weeks later, could only tell me that you had felt very cold and wet. That is all I ever knew of the fate of the Esmeralda until, in God's good time, I met Stanhope on board the Falcon."

"Then the manner of Enid's rescue is conjectural?"

"Absolutely. But Stanhope, who is a sailor, and two men named Spense and Jones, who were Brand's colleagues on the Gulf Rock at that time, have helped me in building up a complete theory. It is quite clear that the second boat did not sink, as was reported by the captain of the John S. She was damaged, and had her mast broken, by the collision. In the darkness and confusion she would be readily carried past the barque, which was probably traveling four knots an hour. The two sailors, in springing from her gunwale into the bobstays, would certainly cant her considerable, and at that instant my poor wife either threw her child into the boat with a last frenzied effort, or someone caught the baby from her as she sank. The boat was seen by Brand floating in with the tide on the morning of the 30th of July. She had been nine days at sea. Some survivor must have given the little one nourishment in that time, as a twelve-months-old child could not possibly have lived. In all likelihood, the bank of fog clung to the surface of the sea and followed the tides, as there was little or no wind on the days following the loss of the yacht. Again, there were provisions in the boat, but no water. Why? Either the water-casks had started their staves when the smash took place, or a careless steward had failed to fill them. The next thing is the identity of the boat. By the stupidity of a sailor, one of the Esmeralda's life-boats was burnt to the water's edge in Norway. He upset a tin of petroleum while he was opening it, and a lighted match did the remainder. Indeed, he and another man at the oars narrowly escaped death. A boat was purchased, but accident or mischance prevented the Esmeralda's name being painted on it. There was a Norwegian port number on the stern-board, and this was smashed away by the falling mast. As the sail was trailing in the water when the boat was found by Brand, it is assumed that the survivor or survivors, who paid some heed to the child, suffered from injuries which prevented him or them from hauling it in. One man's body was found on board and he had been dead many days. Finally, we have the evidence of the child's clothing."

"The girls told me something of the story on the rock," said Pyne. "Gee whiz! I little dreamed that Enid, or Edith, I mean, was my first cousin."

"You know that her garments were marked E. T., and that a little shawl was pinned about her with a gold brooch set with emeralds arranged as a four-leafed shamrock?"

"No. I fancy that they were hindered in their yarn. Believe me, there was always enough to do in that wonderful place. Besides, I knew about the brooch. Had they mentioned it, I guess the gray matter at the back of my head would have become agitated by thought."

"Yes, of course. I am talking to you as if you were hearing this sad history for the first time."

"It is new enough. It has a fresh point of view, which is everything. Now, about that brooch."

"I bought it in Bergen. I remember your poor father laughing about it. It was odd to find an Irish emblem in that out-of-the-way little town. I have not seen it yet, but it is ludicrous to think that so many coincidences can affect two different children cast adrift about the same time in open boats at the junction of the St. George's Channel and the North Atlantic?"

"It's the kind of thing that doesn't occur with monotonous regularity," agreed Pyne. "By the way, I have just made an interesting discovery on my own account."

"What is it?"

"It might easily have happened that not Enid—sorry—I mean Edith—but I should have been the youngster cast adrift in that boat."

"Yes, that is so, of course."

"And I would have grown up as Constance's brother. Guess things have panned out all right as it is."

It was on the tip of his uncle's tongue to ask for some explanation of the very gratified tone in which Master Charles made this remark, but the head waiter entered, solmenly, with the air of respectful and discreet decorum which only an English family butler or a head waiter can assume without burlesque.

"Beg pardon, gentlemen," he said, "but I thought you would like to know about the lady in No. 11, Mrs. Vansittart."

"Yes, what of her??" demanded Traill, whilst Pyne found himself imagining that which caused his heart to beat more rapidly than even the fight for life in the saloon of the Chinook.

"She went out, sir, about an hour ago, and—"

"Has she not returned?"

"No, sir. A policeman has just called to say that she was taken ill, and is now bein' cared for at Mr. Brand's house."

Uncle and nephew glared at each other as men do when they call the gods to witness that no madder words could be spoken. Before the waiter, they perforce restrained themselves.

But Pyne shouted:

"Where is the policeman?"

"He is down below, sir. Shall I bring him up?"

Sergeant Jenkins, however, was too loyal in his friendship to Brand to tell them exactly how it came about that Mrs. Vansittart was sheltered in Laburnum cottage. He admitted that he directed the lady to the house in the first instance, and that Mr. Brand told him subsequently to convey the stated message to the hotel.

Nevertheless, he was the richer for a sovereign as he went out.

Mr. Traill helped himself to a whisky and soda.

"Here's to the reconciliation of Brand and his wife," he said, with a lighter tone and more cheerful manner than he would have deemed possible five minutes earlier.

Pyne followed his example.

"Say, uncle," he cried, "here's a queer item. When I first met Constance I spoke of Mrs. Vansittart, and I called her my prospective step-aunt."

"A d——d silly name, too."

"Constance seemed to think that, or its feminine equivalent. She corrected me, 'You mean your fiancee's aunt,' she said."

"Oh, did she?"

"Yes, and here's to her being my fiancee's mother."

* * * * * * *

With the morning came doubt. A maid, who was given charge of the two children, told Pyne that Mrs. Vansittart had been greatly upset the previous evening. The girl was sure that the lady had passed nearly an hour in tears kneeling by the side of her bed. Then, having regained control of herself to some extent, she rang for the maid and asked at what time the first train left for London next day. She ordered her breakfast at an hour which seemed to indicate her intention to depart by that train, said that she would leave instructions with Mr. Pyne concerning the children, and gave the maid two letters which she had written. These were to be delivered at nine o'clock. It was now nine o'clock. What was to be done with the letters?

As they were addressed to Pyne and his uncle respectively, he soon settled that point.

His letter read:

"Dear Mr. Pyne—I am leaving for London quite early, so I will not see you again in Penzance. I have supplied the little girls with all the garments they will need during the next few days. If, on inquiry, you ascertain that they have no relatives anxious, not merely willing, to take charge of them, I shall be most pleased to assume that responsibility. In that event, kindly write to me, care of my bankers.

"Yours very sincerely,
"E. VANSITTART."

The communication to his uncle was equally brief. Mr. Traill read it to him. It ran:

"Dear Mr. Traill—I cannot marry you. Please forgive me. I did not realize, when you honored me with your proposal that an insuperable obstacle existed. That is all—a lame explanation—but complete so far as it goes. A woman who has wrecked her life finds it hard to choose her words.

Your sincere friend,
"E. VANSITTART."

They discussed these curt notes during breakfast.

"I do not like their tone," said Mr. Traill, gravely. "They impress me as the hurried resolutions of a woman driven to extremities. Were it not for her request about the children, I should think what you thought last night, Charlie, when the policeman turned up."

"I must have telephoned my idea to you mighty quick," was the retort.

"My dear boy, even at this moment we don't know what she intends to do. Why did she go out? What is the nature of her sudden illness? How comes it that she is at Brand's house?"

"I may be mistaken, but I think we will be given answers to all these questions in due time. Nothing really serious can be amiss, or we should have heard of it from Brand himself. Now, will you remain on guard here while I go out with Elsie and Mamie? The one thing that matters in their little lives this morning is that I shall hurry up and go doll-hunting with them."

"I shall hold the fort until you return. You will not be long."

"Perhaps half an hour. Whilst I am out I will make some inquiries as to the condition of our other friends of the Chinook."

"By the way, many of them must be destitute. It is my desire, Charlie, to pay the expenses of any such to their destination, and equip them properly for the journey."

"You are a first-rater, uncle, but it'll make your arm tired if you O. K. the bill all the time. Now here's a fair offer. Let me go halves."

"Be off, you rascal. You are keeping two ladies waiting."

With seeming anxiety to atone for the excesses of the week, the weather that morning justified the claim of Cornwall to be the summer land of England. The sun shone from a blue sky flecked with white clouds. The waters of Mount's Bay sparkled and danced in miniature wavelets. The air was so mild, the temperature so equable, that it was hard to credit sea and wind with the havoc of the preceding days.

The Gulf Rock disaster did not stand alone in the records of the hurricane. Even the day's papers contained belated accounts of casualties on the coasts of Normandy, Holland and far-off Denmark. But nowhere else had there been such loss of life, whilst renewed interest was evoked by the final relief of all the survivors.

Pyne's appearance outside the sitting-room was hailed with a yell. Notwithstanding her own perplexities, Mrs. Vansittart had taken good care that the children were well provided for. They were beautifully dressed, and the smiling maid who freed them from control when the door opened said that they might go out without jackets, the day was so fine.

He descended the stairs, with a cigar in his mouth and a delighted youngster clinging to each hand.

In the hall he encountered a dozen journalists waiting to devour him. They had failed to penetrate the strategic screen interposed by the head waiter. Now the enemy was unmasked and they advanced to the attack.

Pyne was ready for them. He had already outlined his defense.

"Will one of you gentlemen, representing all, kindly give me a word in private?" he asked.

This was readily agreed to.

"Now, this is the deal I will make," he said, when the two were isolated. "I will meet you all here in an hour's time. I will be interviewed, sketched, snap-shotted, give you locks of my hair, my autograph, my views on the far east, the next presidential election, and the fiscal question, if you bind yourself to one thing."

"And that is?"

"Among the passengers saved from the Chinook is a Mrs. Vansittart. She is very ill, and is being cared for by Mr. Brand and his daughters. Make no reference to her in any way whatever beyond including her name in the published lists. Promise that and I'll talk a page."

"I am sure I can agree without consulting my colleagues," said the surprised reporter.

"Come along, kids," said Pyne. "I am delivered bound to the torture."

He passed out into the street, when Elsie's sharp eyes, searching for a shop, suddenly caught sight of Enid hurrying towards the hotel.

The child ran to meet her, and Enid, flushed with excitement, began to explain that Mrs. Vansittart was in bed, suffering from collapse and in a feverish state. The doctor's verdict was that she was in some danger, but would recover if carefully tended and kept in absolute quiet.

"Is Constance with her?" asked Pyne.

"Yes."

"And where is Mr. Brand?"

"He will be here soon. He asked me to call—and tell you—and Mr. Traill—what had happened."

Enid's speech was not prone to trip. Pyne's eyes gleamed into hers.

"Mr. Brand asked you to see my uncle?" he said cautiously.

"Yes," she faltered.

"Did he say anything else?"

"Yes—cousin."

"Let me take you right in. I guess it would make a sensation if I—here, Mamie, just hug Miss Enid good and hard for me, will you?"

Whilst the children waited in the hall, he accompanied the girl up the stairs and threw open the door of the sitting-room.

"Here is somebody you want to see, uncle!" he cried, and rejoined the little ones.

"Hoo roosh!" he yelped. "Now let's buy a toy-store."

Enid and her father faced each other for some seconds in silent bewilderment. Then Mr. Traill rose and came near to her. She did not know what to do or say. This tall, stately man was one who should be dearer to her than anyone else in the world. She was his daughter, yet they were strangers one to the other.

"I—I—" How could she utter conventional words in such a moment? Her lips quivered and tears trembled in her eyes. Then he knew. The lace around her white neck was fastened with a little gold brooch bearing a four-leafed shamrock in emeralds. He looked at her with a profound reverence, and caught her by the shoulders.

"My dear," he murmured, "you are very like your mother."

"I am glad," she said, and kissed him.

CHAPTER XIX.

A week passed. In the fickle memory of the outer world the story of the Gulf Rock lighthouse was becoming mellow with age. Men now talked of war in Africa, of the yellow peril, of some baccarat squabble in a West End club. But its vitality lingered in Penzance. There were side issues which Pyne's device had kept from the public ken, but which the town's folk pondered. Lady Margaret Stanhope, obeying her son's behests, tantalized her friends by smiling serenely and telling them nothing when they pestered her with questions. That is to say, she spoke not one word about the lady who was being nursed back to health in the lighthouse keeper's cottage, but filled their souls with bitterness when she hinted at marvels concerning Constance and Enid.

In such a small place, where every man's affairs are canvassed by his neighbor's, it was impossible to prevent an atmosphere of mystery from clinging to Mrs. Vansittart. Again, the gossips were greatly concerned about Enid. For a young woman "in her position" to be engaged to an officer in the Royal navy and admitted to the sacred ranks of the aristocracy was a wonderful thing in itself. But that she should be on open terms of the greatest intimacy not alone with the elderly Mr. Traill, but with his good-looking nephew, even calling the latter "Charlie" and treating him as a near relative, was an amazing circumstance only surpassed by the complacency with which Lady Margaret and her son regarded it.

The actors in this comedy seemed to be sublimely indifferent to public opinion. That was the worst of it. Enid was escorted about the town by each and all of the men at all hours. Now she was at the hospital, cheering Bates and Jackson or the injured people from the wreck, now arranging for the departure of some of the porer survivors when they were able to travel, now flitting over to Marazion to see Jim Spence, and once actually visiting Mr. Jones, the innkeeper.

At last a part of the secret eked out. Enid went with her father to ask how Mr. Emmett, the sick chief officer, was getting on. They found him smoking in the front garden of the house in which Brand had lodged him.

He started when he saw them approaching, and his weather-beaten face wore the puzzled look with which he regarded Enid one night on the lighthouse stairs.

Traill noticed the sailor's covert glances at Enid, so he said:

"By the way, Mr. Emmett, you were on the Britannic when my wife and I, her sister, and two children, came to England before the Esmeralda was lost?"

"Yes, sir." He paused.

During many an Atlantic crossing he and Mr. Traill had talked of that last journey, when he, a boy who had just joined the service, sat at their table, as was the custom of junior officers in those years.

Mr. Traill smiled. He knew what was in the other man's mind.

"Do you see a likeness in this young lady to anyone you have ever known?" he asked.

"Well, sir, I hope it will not hurt your feelings, and it's a good many years ago now, but I could have sworn—well, I must out with it. She is the living image of your wife."

"Indeed, that cannot hurt my feelings, as she is her daughter."

"Her daughter! Your daughter!" gasped Emmett.

A small serving-maid, with the ears of a rabbit, was listening spell-bound at the open window. Here, indeed, was a choice tit-bit for the milkman, and the postman, and the butcher's and grocer's boys. From this lower current the stream of talk flowed upwards until it reached the august drawing-room of Mrs. Taylor-Smith.

She drove in frantic haste to Lady Margaret's villa, and fired questions broadside.

"Oh, yes," said Jack's mother, suavely. "It is quite true. Of course I have known it from the first. According to present arrangements the marriage will take place in the spring. Enid's marriage settlement will be nearly a quarter of a million."

Like most women, she loved that word. A million, even in fractions, is so glib, yet so unattainable.

The only person who was slightly dissatisfied with the progress of events was Pyne. Constance never appeared. She shared with Mrs. Sheppard the care of her mother. Enid, blithe and guileless in the public eye, did the housekeeping and represented the household.

Brand, too, save for a couple of visits to the hotel, remained invisible. He did not mention Mrs. Vansittart's name. He was pale and worn, a man at war with himself. The young Philadelphian—for Pyne's family home was in the Quaker City, though his estate lay principally in New York—was not pleased by the slight signs perceptible behind the screen of Brand's reserve.

"Constance takes after her father," he told himself. "There may be trouble about her mother. In the scurry I may get left. I must think this out."

At last came a day of warm sunshine, when Enid announced that the invalid, by the doctor's orders, was carried downstairs.

"Has Mr. Brand seen her yet?" asked Pyne.

"No," replied Enid, with a little cloud on her fair face. "He never mentions her. And how we wish he would. He is suffering, but keeps silent, and neither Constance nor I can make any suggestions."

"But what will be the outcome?"

"How can I tell? That night—after we left the hotel—he told us the story of his married life. It did not seem to be utterly impossible to straighten matters, but we knew nothing of her career during so many years. Was she married again? I have asked my father. He believes she was, but is not certain."

"Father" was Mr. Traill; Brand remained "dad." Thus did Enid solve the difficulty.

"Is she aware that Constance knows she is her mother?"

"We think so. Indeed, we are sure. She has been so ill, and is yet so fragile, that we dare not excite her in the least degree. So Constance has been very careful, but every look, every syllable, shows that her mother is in no doubt on that point."

"It's a pretty hard nut to crack," said Pyne. He blew cigar smoke into rings. Seemingly the operation aided reflection.

"Say, Enid," he went on, "if the weather is fine tomorrow, do you think Connie would come out for a drive?"

"I don't know. Certainly she needs some fresh air. What between her anxiety and her mother's illness, they are beginning to look like sisters."

"Just mention to Connie, in her father's presence, that if the sun shines at eleven, I will be along in a dog cart, Mrs. Vansittart will be downstairs by that time?"

"Yes."

"And if Connie comes out with me, you just find an errand in town. Rope Jack into the scheme, or any old dodge of that sort. Take care Mr. Brand knows of it. By the way, send Mrs. Sheppard out too."

"What in the world—"

"You're just too pretty to think hard, Enid. It causes wrinkles. Do as I ask, there's a good girl."

Enid was delighted to find that Brand strongly supported the suggestion that Constance should take the drive. Pyne, sharp on time, drew up a smart pony in front of the cottage, and did not twitch a muscle when Constance, veiled and gloved, ran down the pathway.

"Excuse me getting down," said Pyne. "I dispensed with a groom. I guess you know the roads round here."

She climbed to the seat beside him.

"It is very good of you to take this trouble," she said, and when he looked at her a slight color was visible through the veil.

"How is your mtoher?" he asked, abruptly.

He felt, rather than saw, her start of surprise.

She did not expect the relationship to be acknowledged with such sudden candor.

"She is much better," she assured him.

"That's all right," he announced, as if a load were off his mind. And then, somewhat to her mystification, he entertained her with the news.

Elsie and Mamie had quitted Penzance the previous evening, an aunt having traveled from Boston as soon as the first tidings of the wreck reached her.

"She was a nice looking aunt, too," he said cheerfully. "And I was powerful fond of those two kiddies."

"The association of ideas might prove helpful," she suggested, with a touch of her old manner.

"That is what struck Elsie," he admitted. "She said she didn't know why I couldn't marry Aunt Louise right off, and then we could all live together sociably."

"Oh! And what did the lady say?"

"She thought it a great joke, until I said that unfortunately I had made other arrangements. Then she guessed her nieces had got a bit out of hand."

"Have you seen the poor fellow whose arm was broken? Enid has not had a moment to give me details of events since we landed."

From that point their conversation dealt with generalities. Soon the girl perceived his intent. His sole desire was to place her at her ease, to make her realize that no matter what troubles life held they could be vanquished if faced with a smile. She responded to his mood, and enlivened the drive with comments on the people they met and the houses and villages they passed. For two hours the world went well because it was forgotten.

Enid, the conspirator, waited until the pair in the dogcart were out of sight. Then she went to the little room at the back of the cottage where Brand pretended to be busily engaged in compiling a scientific account of his auriscope.

"I am going out, dad," she said, trying to appear unconcerned.

"All right," he answered, laying down his pipe.

"I only came to tell you because Mrs. Sheppard is out, too."

Obviously Enid was determined that if Pyne's calculations were worth anything they should have fair play.

"Oh," he commented sharply, "but the maid is in?"

"Yes. She is such a stupid girl in some things. If—if our guest rings you will hear here. Would you mind asking Mary what it is in case she gets muddled"

He glanced at her. She was pulling on her gloves, and vastly bothered by a refractory button.

"If I hear the bell, I will inquire," he said, and she escaped, feeling quite wicked.

When he was alone, he did not resume his task. In the next room, separated from him only by a brick wall, was his wife. A wall! Why should there always be a wall between them? It was not of his bidding. Had she made it impossible during the long years. And what would be the outcome, now that Constance was in daily communication with her mother? The doctor, in kindly ignorance, had told him that Mrs. Vansittart was convalescent and would be able to travel in a few days. In response to a question, the doctor added that the lady herself asked when she might be moved.

What was her plan? Mr. Traill, that day, had written him a sympathetic letter, mentioning the fact that Mrs. Vansittart had voluntarily rescinded her promise to marry him, and, indeed, judged by the light of present knowledge, had determined on that course since she first knew that her former husband was living.

Suddenly Brand pushed back his chair from the desk at which he sat.

"The young dog!" he growled. He had in fact followed the exact mental process which Pyne mapped out for him. The letter, the drive, Mrs. Sheppard's absence, Enid's uneasy wriggling at the door, were all parts of an ordered plan. He was to be given an opportunity of seeing his wife and disentangling the twisted strands of twenty years. He rose impatiently, and paced the room, quietly withal, lest the woman in the next room should hear him. A decision had been forced on him. He could shirk it no longer.

"Pyne has contrived this," he muttered. "He thinks he can see more clearly into the future than a man twice his age, Enid is in the plot, too. And Connie! No, not Connie. Dear heart! She

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evidently thought so. And the doctor! Good heavens! was the doctor in the thing, too?

At last, he tugged at the bell.

"Mary," he said, "ask Mrs. Vansittart if she feels able to see Mr. Brand." There; it was done.

Mary, rosy-cheeked and soft of speech, dreading only Mrs. Sheppard's matronly eye, knocked at the door of the sitting room. He heard her deliver his message. There was no audible answer. He was lamenting his folly, hoping against hope that no ill results might be forthcoming to the invalid thus taken by surprise, when he caught Mary's formal "Yes'm," and the girl came to him.

"Please, sir," she said, "the lady says she is anxious to see you."

He walked firmly to the door, opened it and entered. He had made up his mind what to say and how to say it. It would be best to ask his wife to discuss matters in a friendly spirit, and, for their daughter's sake, agree to some arrangement whereby Constance should see her occasionally. There need be no tears, no recriminations, no painful raking through the dust heaps of the vanished years. The passion, the agony, of the old days was dead. Their secret had been well kept. It was known only to those whom they could trust, and they might part without heart-burnings, whilst Constance would be spared the suffering of knowing that her mother and she were separated forever.

These things were well ordered in his brain when he looked at his wife. She was seated near the window, and her beautiful eyes, brilliant as ever, were fixed on his with harrowing intensity. They shone with the dumb pain of a wounded animal.

He walked toward her and held out his hand. Her illness had brought out certain resemblances to Constance. She looked younger, as some women do look after illness. Surely he could not, even had he harbored the thought, use cruel words to this wan, stricken woman, the wife whom he had loved and for whom he had suffered.

"Nanette," he said, with utmost gentleness, "do not be distressed. Indeed, there is no reason why our meeting should be painful. It is better that we should have a quiet talk than that we should part again in anger and bitterness."

She caught his hand in both of hers. Still she said nothing. Her large eyes gazed up at him as if she sought to read in his face the thoughts he might not utter, the memories he might not recall. Her lips distended. He saw her mouth twitching at the corners.

"Nanette," he said again, though his voice was not well under control, and something rose in his throat and stifled him. "I appeal to you not to give way to—to emotion. You may—become ill again—and I would never forgive myself."

Still clinging to his hand, she sank on her knees by his side. But there was no wild burst of tears; her sorrow was to deep for such kindly aid.

"Stephen," she whispered faintly, "I cannot ask you to forget, but you have spoken of forgiveness. Can you forgive?"

He bent over her and would have raised her; she clung to him with such energy that he desisted.

"My poor wife!" he murmured, "who am I that I should deny that which I hope to obtain from my Creator?"

"But—" she panted, in that unnerving whisper—"I treated you so vilely. I left you to join the man you had fought to save me. I deserted my husband and my child for the sake of the money he bequeathed to me. In the lust of wealth I strove to crush you out of my heart. And now that God has humbled me I must humble myself. Stephen, I am not your wife. I obtained a divorce—"

"Nanette," he cried, "I cannot bear to see you kneeling at my feet. I ask no revelations. I forgive you any wrong you may have done me, fully and freely, as I hope to be forgiven."

She yielded to his pleading and allowed him to raise her. For an instant she was clasped to his breast.

"It would be happiness to die in your arms, Stephen," she said wildly. "I do not deserve it, I know, but Heaven is merciful."

The dreadful idea possessed him that in her weak state this passionate wish might be granted.

"Nanette!" he cried, "you must control yourself. If you will not promise to sit down and talk quietly I will leave you."

She obeyed him instantly.

"I don't care how much you scold me," she said, "but you must not go away. I meant to see you before I left Penzance. I came here that night. I looked through the window. I saw my daughter and her adopted sister listening to you and weeping because of a mother's shame. Then I must have lost my senses. I ran away. I remember nothing else until I woke up to find Constance caring for me—in your house."

He tried to break in upon the trend of her thought. This was by no means the line he had intended to pursue. His hope was to soothe and calm her, to part from her in amity and without giving her cause to deplore a loss of dignity.

"I am only too pleased that when illness overtook you you were committed to my care and to Constance. Poor girl! She thought you were dead."

"Did you tell her that?"

"No, but I allowed it to be assumed, which is the same thing."

"When did she know the truth?"

"In the hotel—after you left the room. I had to say something. It was—better—for you—that I should say you were my wife."

"So, even in that trying moment, you strove to shield me from unjust suspicions. Stephen, how could I have acted towards you as I did?"

Again he endeavored to lead her to talk of the future rather than the past.

"There is one great surprise in store for you," he said. "But it is a pleasant one in every way. Enid is Mr. Traill's daughter."

"I am glad," she said simply. "I do not understand, but you must tell me another time. Just now, I can think only of you, and of myself. You must listen, Stephen. I will do all that you demand, hide myself anywhere, but you must know everything. When we parted, when I deserted you to nurse a dying man, I was foolish and wilful, but not wholly abandoned. Nor have I ever been. I was rich enough to gratify my whims, and, for a time, I lived in Paris, on the Riviera, in Florence and in Biarritz. But I was always meeting people who knew you, and, although my wealth, and perhaps my good looks, kept me in a certain set, I felt that our friends invariably took your side and despised me. That embittered me the more. At last your father died, and I saw some vague reference to your disappearance from society. I employed agents to trace you. They failed. Then I went to America and lived on a ranch in Nebraska, where I obtained a divorce from you on the ground of desertion. Desertion, Stephen! That is the plea I raised."

She gave a mocking little laugh. Brand, thinking it best to fall in with her mood, sat in silence on a chair which he had drawn close to the window. From his house he could see the wide sweep of Mount's Bay. The Trinity tender was steaming out from the harbor. It struck him as an extraordinary fact that this was the day of his relief had he served his full two months on the rock.

Today, by his own design, the second era of his checkered career would have come to a peaceful close. Within a little while he would have taken Constance, and Enid, if unmarried, on that long-contemplated Continental tour. But the hurricane came, when "the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm," and the pillar, the refuge of his distress, became the center of influences destined to mold his life afresh.

What did it all mean? He bowed his face into his hands. He heard his wife's low, sweet voice continue:

"I lived there nearly six years. Then my manager died. He was an Englishman named Vansittart. Within a month his wife died. There was some fever about the place, and I became frightened. A longing for the old life seized me, and I went east, but not as Mrs. Brand, the name which I always bore in Nebraska. I had done with it and with you, as I thought—Constance never entered my mind save as a feeble memory—so I became Mrs. Etta Vansittart."

Brand raised his head and looked at her again. She was speaking now in a curiously subdued tone. She was giving evidence against herself, and giving it truly.

"In Newport, Saratoga and the Adirondacks in summer, in New York during the winter, I lived in a drowsy content. People who take drugs must reach that state, but their condition is pitiable when they are aroused. Many men asked me to marry them. I laughed at the idea. At last I met Mr. Traill. We were friendly for quite five years. I came to Europe, to the Engadine, where I found that Mrs. Stephen Brand's troubled life was forgotten, but Mrs. Vansittart, the rich widow, was popular. There I saw Mr. Traill again. He offered me marriage, and I fancied it would be well to ally myself with a man so distinguished and widely known on both sides of the Atlantic. I did not love him. I respected and admired him—that was all. I accepted him, but stipulated that I should go back to the States and wind up my affairs there, returning to Paris for the wedding. That was necessary if I would maintain my deception. So, Stephen, after a lifetime of vagary and wandering, this is the result. I am bespattered by the mud of my own acts; I see my forgotten daughter grown to beautiful womanhood; I meet my husband, whom I might have loved and honored, patiently following the path into which my neurotic impulses drove him. Stephen, do you think my punishment is completed?"

The bitter self-condemnation in her voice was not defiant but subdued. She had traveled far in spirit through the Vale of Tears since the Gulf Rock barred her onward progress.

Though she asked a question she seemed to expect no answer. Brand, thinking to render her task less trying, was still looking through the window and watching the steady churn of the tender towards Carn du and thence to the lighthouse.

At last he spoke:

"When I entered this room," he said, "I meant to avoid a scene which must have been as exhausting to you as it is painful to me. Yet as it happens, it is well for both of us that you have lifted the veil from what has gone before. Now it should be dropped—forever."

"Tell me, what you wish me to do. I will obey."

"Don't you think it will be better if we defer a final settlement? You have already taxed your frail powers beyond their limit."

"No, Stephen. Speak now. I will not faint nor yield to weakness. I will live. Have no fear. Death does not come as a skillful healer of the wounded conscience. It may be sought, and I have thought of that. But Constance would suffer, and, if it will spare her pain, I will endure to the end. Surely I owe her that reparation. I committed moral suicide once in my life. Let it suffice!"

The fixed plan of the study, with its carefully arranged phrases, was not so readily acceptable to the man now. What would become of his wife if he drove her forth, this time of his own accord, to live in mournful solitude, brooding over a wasted life and looking forward only to an occasional visit from her daughter?

A host of impossible ideas jostled in his brain. He strove desperately to find some easy way of suggesting the settlement which appealed to him as the fitting one, but his soul revolted from the notion of formulating a decree of banishment against this ethereal, ghostlike creature who had been thrust back into his very keeping from out the heart of the storm.

He stood up and faced her, careless whether or not the stress of inward conflict in his eyes belied the calm gravity of his words.

"Perhaps you are stronger than I," he said. "We must meet again, tomorrow or next day. Some of the young people will be returning soon. If you wish it, I will not tell them I have seen you."

"It is for you to decide, Stephen."

She seemed to be quite hopeless, resigned to any twist or turn of fate. Here was a broken woman, indeed, and the spectacle was torturing. He had never understood her as a bright young girl and a bride of nineteen. He did not understand her now. A man of his oak-like qualities could not grasp the nature of a woman who bent as a reed before each puff of wind.

It was hard to utter even a commonplace farewell. She held him by her very helplessness. But the rapid trot of a horse caught his ears, and, whilst he stood irresolute, he saw Constance alighting from the dog-cart. His wife looked out, too. They heard their daughter laughingly regret that she could not ask Mr. Pyne to luncheon—meals were irregular events just then.

Brand felt a timid hand grasping his, and a choking sob proclaimed that Constance's mother was crying.

He stooped with a motion that was almost a caress.

"Don't cry," he said. "I cannot bear it."

"I can bear anything, Stephen," she sobbed, "if only you will let me stay with you forever."

"Do you mean that, Nanette?" he gasped, incredulously.

"I have prayed, yes, dared to pray, that it might be so ever since I saw my child. She has brought us together again. Let us not part, for her sake, and for mine, Stephen, if it is not too late."

So Constance, hastening up the garden path, could not believe her eyes when she saw her father lift her mother into his arms and kiss her.

Mary, the maid, never ceased wondering why every other member of her sex in Laburnum Cottage should be tearful yet ridiculously happy that afternoon. Mrs. Vansittart wept, and Miss Constance wept, and Miss Enid wept when she came in, whilst Mrs. Sheppard was weeping at intervals all day.

Nevertheless, they were all delighted in their woe, and Mrs. Sheppard, although she cooked a tremendous dinner, never scolded her once.

It was also a remarkable thing that the invalid lady should insist that she was strong enough to come downstairs that evening. She did not eat a great deal, poor thing, but she looked ever so much better, and seemed to find all her pleasure in gazing alternately at the master and Miss Constance, and in listening to every word they said.

In the garden, next night, the moon being now very brilliant indeed, Pyne said to Constance that the step-aunt idea having fizzled out he guessed that the lady who figured in that unclassified degree of relationship would pose more satisfactory as a mother-in-law.

He said other things that have been said in many languages since men began to woo women, but the phrases are hackneyed save to those who listen, and need not be repeated here.

But why two marriages should take place after extraordinarily short engagements, no one in all Penzance knew save Lady Margaret Stanhope, and she, mirabile dictu (being a woman), kept her counsel. It created no end of a sensation when Constance was described in the London newspapers as "only daughter of Sir Stephen Brand, Bart., of Lesser Hambledon, Northumberland." Parental gossip quickly exhausted itself, as both weddings took place in London, the only available items being the magnificence of the diamonds given to Enid and Constance by Mr. Traill, and the fact that, in Constance's case, "the bride's mother" was described as "looking charming in a silver-gray costume trimmed with point d'Alencon lace."

Even when confronted with this momentous statement by Mrs. Taylor-Smith, Lady Margaret only shrugged her shoulders and purred:

"A romance, my dear, a romance in real life."

On the day following the departure of two happy couples for the continent—Mr. and Mrs. Pyne to Italy, Lieut. and Mrs. Stanhope to the Riviera, with intent to meet in Rome at Easter—a quieter and more sedate couple took train at Waterloo for Southampton, bound for the far west.

Although a Nebraska decree of divorce does not hold good in English law, Lady Brand wished to be married again in the state which sanctioned her earlier folly. Her husband agreed readily. Everybody, including Mr. Traill and Lady Margaret, had arranged to turn up at the north-country mansion in May. Provided there were no hurricanes, Sir Stephen thought his wife's health would benefit by the double sea voyage, and he was personally delighted to see the New World for the first time in her company.

Their steamer sailed from Southampton at 11 a. m. After dinner that night they were abreast of the Gulf Rock, and Brand pointed out to his wife its occulting gleam from afar.

"It makes me feel very humble," she said, after they had watched its radiance darting out over the tumbling seas for a long time in silence.

"Why, sweetheart?" he asked.

"It is so solemn, so intense in its energy, so splendidly devoted to its single purpose."

"Now, it is an odd thing," he replied, as watchful to check her occasional qualms of retrospect as he had been during many a long night to keep that same light at its normal state of clear-eyed brilliance, "but it does not appeal to me in that way. It is winking portentously, as much as to say, 'You old humbug, there you are, leaving me after all these years, and running away with your own wife.'"

THE END.

MAN AND HIS WAYS.

Uncle Pilduzer is deeply engrossed in a process for extracting indigestion from doughnuts.—Baltimore Sun.

John G. Carlisle, former secretary of the treasury and now a lawyer in New York, hasn't changed the style of his high hat in forty years.—Saturday Evening Post.

The young men brought here by the munificence of Mr. Cecil Rhodes are a credit to us and to the countries from which they come. The first batch has been up three years and some of the scholars, as soon as they were qualified by statute, took a shot at schools. Of the fifteen who entered for final honors, more than 50 per cent. took the coveted "First." Three of them are now bachelors of law, one a bachelor of science, and among them they have already a Weland scholar, a Vinerian law scholar and a Gladstone prizeman. Australasia is an easy first in the list of distinctions, while the honors are easy between the United States and our own colony, Canada. This bare record of the Rhodesters' achievement speaks for itself. Of rhetoric it hath no need.—Star.

There is, perhaps, no sounder musician living than Sir Walter Parratt, the master of the king's music, and it would require more than a musical genius to accomplish the feat Sir Walter performed when staying with some musical friends at Tenbury some years ago. To while away the evening, chess was suggested and Sir Walter proposed that he should sit at the piano and play from memory, while the opposing friends on the chess-board at the same time. The challenge was accepted, and, with his back to the board, Sir Walter sat at the piano and played Chopin and Mendelssohn, calling out his moves whenever necessary. He won the game in three-quarters of an hour.—Tit-Bits.

Some people suffer horribly at football games; yet you cannot keep them away. One of my classmates could never endure this dreadfully glorious opening moment. He always turned his face away, and then kept beseeching the rest of us in a low moan to tell him what was going on, which we never did. He is fat now and presumably phlegmatic, but I haven't happened to be near him of late years. I know another man who always goes alone and will not allow any one he knows to sit near him if he can help it. He wears a cap and sweater and pays no attention to anything but football, yelling with delight when a thing pleases him and swearing quietly to himself when there seems need of it. Once upon a time he was the best football player of his department in the whole country, but that was so many years ago that they no longer call upon his services as a coach, so he sits in the grand stand and has a lonely debauch of football emotion.—Outing Magazine.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription,

Is not a secret or patent medicine, against which the most intelligent people are quite naturally averse because of the uncertainty as to their harmless character, but is a medicine OF KNOWN COMPOSITION, a full list of all its ingredients being printed, *in plain English*, on every bottle wrapper. An examination of this list of ingredients will disclose the fact that it is non-alcoholic in its composition, chemically pure glycerine taking the place of the commonly used alcohol, in its make-up. The "Favorite Prescription" of Dr. Pierce is in fact the only medicine put up for the cure of woman's peculiar weaknesses and ailments, sold through druggists, that does not contain alcohol *and that too in large quantities*. Furthermore, it is the only medicine for woman's special diseases, the ingredients of which have the unanimous endorsement of all the leading medical writers and teachers of all the several schools of practice, and that too as remedies for the ailments for which "Favorite Prescription" is recommended.

A little book of some of these endorsements will be sent to any address, postpaid, and absolutely *free* if you request same by postal card or letter, of Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Don't forget that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, for woman's weaknesses and delicate ailments, is not a patent or secret medicine, being the "Favorite Prescription" of a regularly educated and graduated physician, engaged in the practice of his chosen specialty—that of diseases of women—that its ingredients are printed *in plain English* on every bottle-wrapper; that it is the only medicine especially designed for the cure of woman's diseases that contains no alcohol, and the only one that has a professional endorsement worth more than all the so-called "testimonials" ever published for other medicines. Send for these endorsements as above. They are *free* for the asking.

If you suffer from periodical, headache, backache, dizziness, pain or dragging down sensation low down in the abdomen, weak back, have disagreeable and weakening, catarrhal, pelvic drain, or are in distress from being long on your feet, then you may be sure of benefit from taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets the best laxative and regulator of the bowels. They invigorate stomach, liver and bowels. One a laxative; two or three a cathartic.

The Sunday School.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS GIFT.

The International Sunday School Lesson for December 23 is a Christmas Lesson. John 1:1-4. The Golden Text is "They Presented Unto Him Gifts." Matt. 2:11.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

Christmas is in everybody's thought. The air is filled with the holiday spirit. Christmas buying and selling, giving and receiving, are engrossing general attention. Lest only the superficial aspects of this great day should engage people's interests, it is well that the custom exists in the Sunday schools of making this lesson for the Sunday preceding Christmas a topical lesson.

"The Birth of Jesus" might well be called the title of the present lesson, for it was an event important, historically and spiritually, and is seasonable as well. The deeper meaning of Christmas needs to be kept prominent. It should not be allowed to become a mere holiday; it is that, true enough, but it is also vastly more—true holy day, for it commemorates the most sacred event in all history. Christmas is more than an occasion for the exchange of gifts of friendship; it is a reminder of the human birth of the divine Son of God, with all that is meant by that tremendous fact. We miss the true secret of Christmas joy if we leave Christ out of our Christmas celebration.

Wise Men From Afar.

There is an underlying fascination about that portion of the sacred record which has been set apart as the Christmas lesson—the visit of the Wise Men. Something of the mystery of the east pervades the story. Who were these three Wise Men? What were their names and what their country? Were they kings, astrologers, nobles or priests? How long had they journeyed? What was the star they saw, and how did they understand its significance? We do not know. Tradition has been busy, but history has been silent. In mystery as in majesty their figures loom up on the page of revelation lighted only by the beams from the star that was their beckoning guide.

In heathen darkness they were given light to seek more light. Their search for truth had been rewarded by the sight of a star which led they knew not where. But it was light enough for progress. God never leaves any seeking soul without a gleam to lead it to himself. Wherever and whenever a sincere soul has sincerely sought to know the truth God has given him a guiding star. And whoever follows the path of truth will eventually arrive at Bethlehem.

Following the Star.

Everybody has glimpses of a higher, nobler life, of spiritual possibilities and of unselfish service, but only the few have the purpose and resolution to follow this gleam. The story of the Wise Men is less that they saw the star than that they followed it; followed it steadfastly day after day, in weariness and hope, despite obstacles and discouragements and all the voices that would call them back from their seemingly mad quest. With a singleness of devotion that is sublime they adhered steadfastly to their purpose and pursued their request until Bethlehem and the Child were reached.

They were men who would not be sidetracked from a lofty ideal, as alas, too many of us are. Neither Herod nor the Jews could swerve them from their noble purpose. They sought until they found, and their reward was to see the new King who should usher in the golden age, and to lay before him their gifts. There is inspiration for every person who would be true to his loftiest conceptions of truth and duty in this story of the idealistic, persevering and achieving Wise Men.

Some Other Persons.

All the characters in this story are not heroes. In contrast with the nobility of the Wise Men the petty jealousy of Herod, the indifference of the Jewish scholars and the faintheartedness of the friends of the Wise Men stand out the more clearly. It is inconceivable that the vision of the star and its significance was confined to these three. And even so they would have shared the news with neighbors and kindred spirits. But of all who knew, they alone had the courage to undertake the difficult quest. Even at so early a period Jesus was a divider of men, as he is today: He is forever separating the wheat from the chaff, the fit from the unfit.

Old Herold, rotting with wickedness, saw in the Wise Men only tools for his malignant revenge. Their news of a new-born king aroused his jealous passions, which never slept soundly. His heart was festering with all kinds of evil, and out of it could come no thoughts of tolerance or nobleness or unselfishness. So with clumsy cunning, he planned to learn where this possible usurper of his throne was to be found, that he might slay him. Fiendish, truly!

The deadness of the spiritual life of the ecclesiastical leaders of the Jews at this period is seen in the indifference of the priests and scribes to this strange intimation that the Messiah had come. They knew where He was to be born but there was none of them to hasten with eager feet over the few miles to Bethlehem to verify or disprove the rumor brought by these gentile Easterners. Sad examples, they, of men whose religion had become a mere form.

The Goal at Last.

Inspired by the tidings which they gained at Herod's palace, that the neighboring village of Bethlehem was their probable destination, the Wise Men set forth on the last short stage of their wonderful journey. They had not found the promised King in a palace; could they be disappointed to discover him in humble cottage in an obscure town? No, for they were wise men who could look beyond outward appearance, and perceive the essential unkingliness of Herod and the possible royalty of this little babe on Mary's knee. They had no difficulty in finding the house. The birth in the manger, and the story of the shepherds, had attracted public attention to the little family, and room had been made for them in the house of some friend or relative. The visit of the Wise Men was not to the stable, many pictures and poems to the contrary notwithstanding.

The stately strangers entered the lowly dwelling and did obeisance to Mary's babe, much to the wonderment of interested neighbors. At his feet they poured out the first Christmas gifts—gold, frankincense and myrrh, in a rich store that would make possible the ensuing sojourn in Egypt. Their serenity and joyfulness were not impaired by the state in which they found the infant King. They believed the star, and in happy satisfaction hailed him as deliverer of the race.

The Apotheosis of Childhood.

The adoration of the Wise Men is typical of the new place that childhood has had in the world since the first Christmas morn. Christianity is the only religion that honors the child. Since Jesus came as Mary's babe, all childhood has been sanctified. The little ones in every Christian home are more precious because Jesus, too, was once a child. The nearness of the Infinite to our humanity was made very real at Bethlehem. Today, as the whole world does honor to the memory of the Christ-child, we are but following in the train of the Wise Men of old.

They made the first Christmas gifts; and all the gifts that mark this season should partake of the characteristics of theirs—unselfish desire to honor the one receiving them. Those gifts, too, were in the nature of acts of worship; and is not every token given in the true Christmas spirit in honor of the Christ who came to teach this selfish old world new lessons of love?

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LAMB'S LETTERS.

Injunction Against Publishers Upheld in the Appeal Court.

Charles Lamb's letters came up in the court of appeals yesterday on an appeal against an injunction granted by Mr. Justice Kekewich restraining Messrs. Dent from publishing certain letters. The question raised was whether the copyright in the letters was vested in the first publisher or in Dent & Co., who were in actual possession of the letters. The letters were written by Lamb to members of the Lloyd family, to whom Lamb was related, between 1796 and 1810. Lamb made his will in 1830, and died in 1834, before the copyright law was passed, in 1842. The letters got into the possession of Mr. and Mrs. Steed, and in 1895 Smith, Elder & Co., descendants of the Lloyds, made an agreement with the Steeds whereby the latter purported to assign to them such copyright as they then possessed, and also such right of publication as they could confer.

Smith, Elder & Co. borrowed the original letters, had them copied, and returned them to the Steeds. They were printed in a book called "Charles Lamb and the Lloyds," edited by Mr. Lucas, and published in 1898. Smith, Elder & Co. then made arrangements with Macmillan & Co. under which the latter had the right to publish the letters in a book they were bringing out in 1902. Dent & Co. applied to Smith, Elder & Co. for permission to publish the letters in an edition of Charles Lamb's works, but this was refused. Subsequently, in 1902, a traveler of Dent's at a sale at Birmingham, purchased the letters from the Steeds for £250, and Messrs. Dent obtained an assignment from Mr. Moxon, the administrator of Charles Lamb, of such rights in the letters as he might have as administrator.

Their lordships held that the copyright in the letters was in the legitimate owner who first published them, and therefore was in Smith, Elder & Co. by virtue of their agreement with the Steeds. The appeal was accordingly dismissed, with costs.—London Daily News.

After You Are Well From Rheumatism

Will You Pay Your Banker $10.

Not a cent in advance—not a penny, remember, until you, yourself, can freely and unhesitatingly say, "I am well again."

Should you begin the treatment, I will let your Banker or Express Agent hold the money.

Will you under such conditions, to be completed and entirely free from Rheumatism, expend $10.00? That is what I now promise Rheumatics. My boundless, never-ending faith in Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy has led me to make and fulfill this remarkable offer. Positively no physician, anywhere, has ever before said, "I will Cure Rheumatism, else make no charge."

I want to get—and must in some way get, everybody, everywhere, to fully and completely understand what I myself now absolutely know, about this unsurpassed prescription. The remedy is surely remarkable—then why not the offer? Every Druggist nearly, in America, whether located in hamlet or city, has been, and is now freely selling at $1.00 per bottle, Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy. And yet, strange to say, not one sufferer perhaps in a hundred, even knows as yet of the remedy and its power to battle against pain. To stir, to awaken these unknowing ones, to spread the knowledge of what this prescription can do, I shall broadly publish this offer, these facts, unrestricted and everywhere. Having no fear of the final outcome, I shall unhesitatingly tell of my plan to all.

Reader, you that are well and happy, do an act of humanity. Tell some tortured and suffering one that there is yet one way to health—one way entirely free from risk, or of money loss.

For a complete cure I charge $10.00, for I must strike a fair-to-all average price. It is true that many will be cured with a bottle or two of my remedy, but chronic, exceedingly deep-seated and difficult cases, may require ten; twenty, or even a greater number. He, I believe, who has actually suffered the pangs of real Rheumatism, will hardly complain of the price when cured, because perchance, but two or three bottles are needed in his particular case.

But to secure this "No Cure, No Pay" privilege, you must write me personally. Simply address Dr. Shoop, Contract B, Racine, Wis. Box 1825.

Do not trouble your druggist, please, about this plan. He has no authority, nor will he furnish my medicine, except to sell it at retail, bottle by bottle. Write me instead today for my "Contract B" agreement. I will also send my Book on Rheumatism free, or if you please, medical advice and book on other diseases.

Which book shall I send you?

Book 1 on Dyspepsia, Book 2 on the Heart, Book 3 the Kidneys, Book 4 For Women.

Remember, for Rheumatism use

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy

A LONGFELLOW MEDAL

Issued in Connection With the Coming Centenary.

Interest among the people of Cambridge Mass., and its vicinity in a proper observance of the approaching Longfellow centenary, is very evident and is growing keener daily. The committee, made up of members of the Cambridge Historical society, has the celebration in charge, and from plans made thus early, there is no doubt that the occasion will be a memorable one.

Professor Charles Eliot Norton, chairman of the committee, announces that a special bronze medal will be struck in commemoration of the event. It will be designed by the distinguished artist, Bela L. Pratt, who designed the similar medal struck in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of Charles W. Eliot to the presidency of Harvard college. It will be circular in form, and about 3½ inches in diameter. It will be a rare, beautiful and noteworthy memorial.

The number of copies of this medal to be issued will be strictly limited to two hundred.

RUSSIA BUILDING A NEW NAVY

Russia has begun the rebuilding of her navy by the launch of another Rurik, named after one of the ships that went down before the Japanese guns, says the Providence Journal. She is reported to be the most powerful ship of the cruiser class afloat. It will be many years before the Russian navy will be in shape to be rated among the powerful navies of the world; but neither for Russia nor for Spain is the task so tremendous as might appear from consideration of the start that other nations have in fleets now in commission. Warships become so speedily out of date that in the making of a new armament existing ships need not be seriously reckoned with.

The United States, Germany and Japan afford examples of successful naval construction in the face of fleets already existing and apparently only requiring to be added to at convenience to keep them easily in the van of the new aspirants for naval standing at the front. The process of "keeping up" a navy, however, involves constant and wholesale discarding of types quickly fallen behind the times and not long to be depended upon for the firing line. Thus the country, like Russia, that has begun all over again is thereby confronted with no fear of the numbers or strength of the fleets of rival nations; these, too, must every few years begin all over again.

Something more than ships will, however, be necessary to the re-establishment of a navy for Russia on such a basis that it will have to be seriously reckoned with by nations with which Russia may threaten conflict. Ships do not make a fighting navy, and the story of disaster on the sea to the Russian arms in their encounter with Japan was a revelation of demoralization that rendered the fleets impotent in the struggle against a particularly savage enemy equipped with thoroughness and precision in every department of naval administration. Neither is the training of the man behind the gun the sole essential to prospective triumph; the gun and what goes into it must be equal to the task that ships and gunners expect of them. Nothing is more clear, of all the complaints of rascally work in the supply departments of both the army and navy of Russia, than that the Russian ammunition was pathetically inferior to that of the Japanese. Without a drastic reform all through the Russian naval establishment, the new fleet will as surely prove but a target for the enemy at the next encounter.

He Was a Green One.

Senator Beveridge was talking one afternoon in Washington to a group of newly-elected congressmen.

"You boys," he said, "must on no account appear green. Keep cool, go slow, think before you speak; then you won't give yourselves away."

The unripe congressmen laughed, and Senator Beveridge continued:

"I should hate to hear that one of you had acted as a new southern congressman once did.

"He, as soon as he reached Washington, went off to a photographer's to be photographed.

"'I want my likeness taken,' he said.

"'Cabinet?' the photographer asked.

"The southerner reddened and looked pleased.

"'No,' he answered; 'just a plain, everyday congressman.'" — Oakland Tribune.

Cancerol Has the Confidence of the People.

A record of successful cancer cures of people from every part of the Union and in every situation about the body contained in a valuable free book, which will be sent to those interested. Write today. Address Dr. T. L. Leach, Drawer 88 F, Indianapolis, Ind.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answers.

The following questions are submitted to readers to answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

I would be pleased if someone would tell me, through the Farmstead columns, the origin of the red-poled cattle; also why they are better than other cattle. What are their good qualities?—H., Greenwood, Colorado.

How can I tan, at home, one, or at most, a few small skins, such as rabbit, raccoon, cat, dog, sheep and calfskins? I would like to dress them with the hair on, for furs and rugs, and also for the hair off for gloves, strings and such purposes. Can any reader give me the process used by the Indians for preparing deer for moccasins?—C., Stithton, Ky.

Our dog has some disease that breaks out in sores over his body. It itches so he scratches nearly all the time and the hair comes off in places. Do not think it is mange. He is a favorite pet and I would appreciate a cure for him.—S., Gray's Mills, Pa.

I would like to have information in regard to raising turkeys from some reader who has had experience; how to care for, feed when young, what to feed them and the most profitable turkeys to raise.—H., Walker Station, W. Va.

Will some reader of the Farmstead be kind enough to give a recipe for pickling beef?—O., Perry, Mo.

I will be much obliged to any alfalfa grower who will explain, through the Farmstead colums, how to prepare the ground for alfalfa; how, when and how much to sow. I have read several articles on the subject of alfalfa, but none told when to sow or how to fit the ground.—K., Montgomery, Mich.

Cement.

M., Levelys, W. Va.: Stones four to six inches thick will need less cement than those one inch thick for a perch of wall. Again, some mortar is half cement, some is one-third, one-fourth and even one-sixth. So there is no definite rule.—G., Arkport, N. Y.

Chickens Have Colds.

D., W. Va.: Your chickens are afflicted with colds, and if not stopped will soon develop into roup. For colds take turpentine, coal oil, lard and camphor, equal parts; bathe their heads two or three times a day.—E., High Point, N. C.

Vinegar.

H. Wise, Pa.: My vinegar barrel being rather low I put some new cider into it lately and the mixture is a good vinegar already. I read in The Blade that new cider for some chemical reason should not be put into old vinegar, but I have done it all my life and expect to keep on doing it. I do not see any mystery about it. If your barrel gets low in spring and you can get some maple sap boil three gallons into one and put it in and in the cider season fill her up again. I have seen pure cider stand for years without malting vinegar, getting at last perhaps in condition where vinegar making is impossible, but if your cider is of this season add some good vinegar to it.—G., Arkport, N. Y.

Some Large Perennials.

Chinodoxas, crocuses, pansies, daisies, portulacas and such low flowering plants are all very well, but large and strong perennials are good, too, easily grown and making a great display with no particular culture beyond a mulch of old manure late in fall and a little space round them kept clear of grass and weeds. Of these the great reed arundo donax should be widely cultiavted. Native to Egypt, Palestine, etc., and thought to be the reed of Scripture it is yet hardy here in Western New York if mulched with fine manure or covered with snow. I have had it three or four years, and thought it ironclad until last winter, when zero spells and bare ground came together. Even then some of it lived through, and if I had mulched it as I should it would have been all right. (The arundo donax variegatus autaus, a sort with leaves edged with white, is tender and must be cellar wintered in the north. So be sure you get the green kind if hardiness is desirable). The new roots extend outward mostly and the old ones die out so the clump becomes a circle which grows larger year by year. It is said to get fifteen feet high, but my best stalk so far was eleven and 100 stalk like this make a great show. The long, smooth leaves are of a pea green tint, and frosts that kill corn have no effect on them. It never flowers nor tries to with me. A swamp plant in its native and it grows in any garden soil. The reeds cut and seasoned through the winter make good bean poles if two or more are tied together at the top. A Californian wrote in a paper that it makes good green forage. The Japanese eulalias are also great grasses and are magnificent plants perfectly hardy here. We have three kinds in this country, eulalia Japonica zebrina E. gracillima variegated and E. Jap gracillima univittata. The zebrina is the largest, twelve feet they say, but my best growth was nine feet. The long, smooth, gracefully bending leaves are tough and shining and are curiously marked with yellow spots, giving a checkered appearance and a clump of 100 stalks eight to nine feet high and the same in diameter is quite conspicuous. In late summer plumes, something like corn tassels in structure, but much finer and more delicate appear, looking when fresh from the sheath-like crinkled strands of raw silk of a yellow brown shade, fuzzing out finally into a fawn-colored plume which will last in the house any number of years. Large golden anthers hang by fine threads from the branches for a few days, but the season is never long enough here to ripen the seed though frosts have no effect on the foliage. The eulalia Jap variegata is not more than six or eight feet high, but the leaves are wider and more luxuriant with white stripes the whole length, no two alike, like the old gardener's garter, or ribbon grass. It makes great display by moonlight, seeming then like a great fountain of the whitest water showering down on all sides. Plumes come later than zebrinia's but otherwise are the same. E. Jap. gracillima univittata has more slender stems, smaller plumes and very narrow almost hairlike leaves of a dull grayish green. "Most beautiful of all," says the catalogue but I can't see it, though it is a fine and interesting plant which should be seen beside its relatives. All these eulallas in ten or twelve years form a huge mound of roots which become so solid that the plants are likely to die wholly or in part at that age, at least that is what mine did. So I recommend that the roots not be devided (with an axe) and reset before it is so old. Swamp plants naturally they will do well at the margin of water they say but no drouth can wilt them when set in dry soil. The double variety of rudbeckia lacinata, more often called "golden glow," is also an aquatic which flowers sometimes in a hot noon. The single flowered form from which the golden glow was developed (in Illinois) is a common swamp plant all over the country, the flowers having only three or four yellow petals and a tall cone in the centre of a greenish hue. It is eight feet high with me, a huge sheaf of bloom which

QUESTION BUREAU ?

RULES—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or firm, nor to tell where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest to a majority of our readers. 5.—We will not answer any questions on religious topics, no questions involving dogma or doctrine, or of Biblical interpretation; no prices of old coins or stamps; no arithmetical or grammatical questions. 6.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

Knights of the Golden Circle.

Editor Question Bureau: Is there any published history of the Knights of the Golden Circle, or more especially of its exposure and disbanding?—J. M. B., Ligonier, Ind.

We have no such history in mind. There is no question, however, of the secret purposes of the organization having been exposed. With the war the reason for its existence came to an end. It was composed of men opposed to the north and anxious for separation. About 1862 the organization took root in the west, its principal object being to hinder the draft of soldiers. It was known by various names. The exposure of some of its signs and secrets led the Confederate general, Sterling Price, to organize in Missouri a new society known as the Corps de Belzigue. This organization finally became part of the order of American Knights, organized by C. L. Vallandingham, of Ohio, and P. C. Wright, of New York. The object of this society was to resist the draft and to encourage desertion among Union soldiers, to aid the Confederates by giving them information and by recruiting for their ranks, and to establish a northwestern confederacy. Some of the secrets of the order having been learned by the federal authorities, it was reorganized in 1864; its new name was Order of the Sons of Liberty, or Knights of the Order of Sons of Liberty. Its organization was of a military nature. In 1864 the number of its members was estimated at from 35,000 to 800,000, among whom, it is said, was Jefferson Davis, H. H. Dodd, one of its highest officers, was arrested for conspiracy against the government, but he escaped punishment. The organization was known by different names in different states.

To Silver Mirrors.

Editor Question Bureau: Can you tell me how to prepare a coating on glass for a mirror?—M. B., Snowville, Va.

The silvering of mirrors is usually done by coating the glass with an amalgam. For this purpose a large, flat stone table is provided; upon it is easily spread a sheet of tin foil without crack or flaw; this is covered uniformly to a depth of ¼ inch with clean mercury. The plate of glass, perfectly cleansed from all grease and impurity, is floated on to the mercury carefully, so as to exclude all air bubbles. It is then pressed down by loading it with weights in order to press out all the mercury which remains fluid, which is received in a gutter around the stone. After about 24 hours it is raised gently upon its edge, and in a few weeks it is ready to frame. It is said to be desirable to have the lower edge of the glass from which the mercury is drained at the bottom of the frame.

Newspaper Reporting.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you kindly inform me if the art of newspaper reporting can be learned, or must such an art be born in a person? If a young person thinks he would have a liking for such profession would it be advisable to take a course of study in journalism? Kindly give as much information as space will allow.—J. S. Q., Canton, Ill.

To begin with, we would not call newspaper reporting an art. Secondly, we do not remember ever having come in contact with a "born newspaper reporter." Certainly there are persons who have natural adaptability to the work of newspaper reporting, and they are certainly quicker to acquire the essentials to good newspaper reporting than the person who couldn't tell a good newspaper story from a drove of sheep, but the work must be learned in detail through practical experience. There may be courses in journalism that would help any young person who expects to become a newspaper reporter, but by far the best schooling is that obtained through experience. A good place to begin is on a small country newspaper. Most of the successful newspaper workers on the large city papers have received their first lessons on the country papers, where they get a variety of work and lots of it.

Fire Losses in U. S.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please give some statistics showing the loss of life and property caused by fire and water, including forest fires, destruction of cities and farm property in the United States?—H. R., Mt. Liberty, O.

We have no statistics showing the loss of life by fire in the United States. For the past thirty years the total property loss by fires in the country amounted to $3,695,982,046, up to and including the year 1905. The total loss to the insurance companies as a result of these fires was $2,-385,200,000. The greatest loss in any one of these thirty years occurred in 1904. The property loss at that time amounted to $220,520,131; incurance loss, $138,314,212.

Shakespeare's Plays.

Editor Question Bureau: Please classify Shakespeare's plays by telling which are tragedies, which are comedies and which are historical.—E. F. F., Booneville, Ark.

The Shakespeare tragedies are as follows: Troilus and Cressida, Titus Andronicus, The Tragedy of Cariolanus, Romeo and Juliet, Simon of Athens, Julius Caesar, Macbeth, Hamlet, King Lear, The Moor of Venice, Antony and Cleopatra, Cymbeline and Pericles, Prince of Tyre. Historical: King John, King Richard II, King Henry IV, King Henry V, King Henry VI, Richard III, Henry VIII. Comedies: The Tempest, Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Measure for Measure, The Comedy of Errors, Much Ado About Nothing, Love's Labour's Lost, Midsummer Night's Dream, The Merchant of Venice, As You Like It, The Taming of the Shrew, All's Well That Ends Well, Twelfth Night, or What You Will, The Winter's Tale.

Whisky and Tobacco.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell the amount of money spent for whisky in the United States in one year; also the amount spent for tobacco. Which is the most destructive to the people? In other words, how many die from the use of each?—G. M. R., McAdenville, (N. C.

If there is an answer to the above question we don't know that it is. We have no statistics to show the amount of money the people of the United States spend for whisky and tobacco, and there could be no accurate statistics showing the number of people who die from the use of either. As to which is the most destructive the Bureau editor hasn't any opinion to offer.

Question of Authorship.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell who is the author of "I am monarch of all I survey, my right there is none to dispute," etc. When and under what conditions was the above written?"—R. M. P., Oakley, Tenn.

The above lines are from a poem written by Cowper. They are supposed to have been written by Alexander Selkirk, a Scottish seaman, who, in 1704, in consequence of a quarrel with his captain, was put ashore at his own request on the Island of Juan Fernandez, which was then much frequented by vessels navigating the Pacific. He was supplied with clothes, arms, ammunition, and other necessaries, and remained on the island in solitude four years and four months, when he was taken off, February 12, 1709, and carried to England. It is probably worth while to say that Daniel Defoe, the author of Robinson Crusoe, was accused by his enemies of having stolen the idea and even the materials of Robinson Crusoe from the narrative of Alexander Selkirk; but the charge was without foundation. Selkirk was not wrecked; on the contrary, he was a voluntary inhabitant of Juan Fernandez. Crusoe's island, as the title of his narrative states, was in the Caribbean Sea, near the mouth of the Orinoco; and it is believed that the most probable prototype of Defoe's hero was Peter Serrano, who in the 16th century was shipwrecked and lived alone for several years on an island in the Caribbean Sea near the mouth of the Orinoco. We may not correctly comprehend what our inquirer had in mind when asking under what conditions the lines quoted in his question were written, but assuming that he may have attributed them to Selkirk himself, who wrote them while on the island of Juan Fernandez, this explanation has been made. It may be further stated that there are still people in the world who believe that Robinson Crusoe was a real person, and not the creature of a writer of fiction.

The First Umbrella.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please answer the following question: When and by whom was the first umbrella invented?—C. H., Montgomery, Mich.,

We could almost as easily tell when the first umbrella was stolen; or, when the last one stolen will be returned. Umbrellas are of great antiquity. They were introduced from Asiatic countries, where they are used as protectors from the sun's rays, rather than from rain. They were brought to England from Italy in the early part of the 18th century, and latter came into general use, being carried by ladies, but scorned by men as effeminate. It is recorded that the first person who commonly carried an umbrella in London was Jonas Hanway, a benevolent man, who died in 1786. John McDonald, a footman, who wrote his own life, says that he had a fine silk umbrella, which he brought from Spain, but he could not with any comfort to himself use it, the people calling out, "Frenchman! why don't you get a coach?" The footman says he "persisted for three months, till they took no further notice of this novelty. Foreigners began to use theirs; and then the English." This was in 1778. The first umbrella used in the United States was brought from India, in 1772. Early dictionaries describe the umbrella as "a portable penthouse to carry in a person's hand to screen him from violent rain or heat." Umbrellas appear in the carvings at Persepolis, Niebuhe saw a great Arabian prince returning from a mosque, he and each of his family having adopted umbrella carried by their side. Old Chinaware shows the Chinese shaded by umbrellas.

The general construction of the umbrella has changed little in the thousands of years it has been known, the ancient Chinese pattern being adopted by the Europeans. English manufactories control the largest output of umbrellas. The industry was introduced into the United States about 1800, but did not assume importance until 1865, the present time the capital invested in it in this country is estimated at $3,000,000, and the approximate total of umbrellas manufactured at 9,000,000 per annum.

Woman Suffrage.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell all you can about woman suffrage; whether you think women should or should not be allowed to vote. Give your reasons. I have been a subscriber to The Blade for a number of years, and this is the first question I have ever asked, and I trust you will answer as soon as possible.—L. H. K., Kessler's Cross Lanes, W. Va.

The editor of the Question Bureau does not give opinions. Opinions belong in the editorial columns, where the paper's opinions of woman suffrage have been given from time to time, and the substance of these opinions is that women should be allowed to vote. In the United States women possess suffrage on equal terms with men at all elections in four states. In Wyoming, established in 1869; in Colorado, 1893; in Utah, in 1896; in Idaho, in 1896. In Kansas women possess school suffrage, established in 1861, and municipal suffrage, established in 1887. In eighteen additional states women possess school suffrage. In Michigan and Minnesota, established in 1875; in New Hampshire and Oregon, in 1878; in Massachusetts, in 1879; in New York and Vermont, in 1880; in Nebraska, in 1883; in Wisconsin, in 1900; in Washington, in 1886; in Arizona, Montana, New Jersey, North Dakota and South Dakota, in 1887; in Illinois, in 1891; in Connecticut, in 1893; in Ohio, in 1894. Two states permit women to vote upon the issuance of municipal bonds: Montana, established in 1887; Iowa, in 1894. Louisiana gave all women taxpayers the suffrage upon all questions submitted to the taxpayers in 1898. In 1901 the New York legislature passed a law providing that "a woman who possesses the qualifications to vote for village or town officers, except the qualifications of sex, who is the owner of property in the village assessed upon the last preceding assessment roll thereof, is entitled to vote upon a proposition to raise money by tax or assessment."

In Great Britain women can vote for all officers except members of parliament; for this privilege the women suffragists are now working enthusiastically, some of them even suffering martyrdom in prison for zealous efforts to bring about the granting of what they believe to be their just rights. In Australia and New Zealand women have full suffrage; also in the Isle of Man. In Cape Colony, in Canada and in parts of India women vote on various terms for municipal and school officers.

It will be seen from the above that the general tendency is to extend the voting privilege to women. We hear of various reports as to results where women have been given full suffrage. Late reports have been to the effect that there is dissatisfaction with the law as it exists in Colorado, but this has been emphatically denied by leading men and women of that state, who credit what dissatisfaction that may exist to men who have a poor opinion of the law. A strong argument that many make in favor of extending suffrage to women is that it will advance the cause of temperance and morality. An argument that is made against a woman voting is that it will have a tendency to degrade her. On the other hand it might with equal, if not greater, reasoning be asserted that the tendency would be to lift politics to a higher and more respectable plane.

The Japanese Trouble.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell me all you can about the Japanese trouble in California? What was the cause? The outcome? What is President Roosevelt's view of the matter? What is your view?—R. S., Trotwood, O.

The Japanese trouble arose from San Francisco's objection to allowing Japanese pupils to attend the public schools of the city. There has been no outcome, for the matter is only getting into the civil courts. President Roosevelt's views on the subject are very plainly stated in his recent message, as printed in The Blade. The Blade's views have been given in the editorial columns.

Church Trouble in France.

Editor Question Bureau: Please give a history of the origin and nature of the trouble between the republic of France and her Catholic subjects, now agitating that country, and state if other religious denominations are involved, and if so, how. Please state if church and state have been united by law and if this trouble grows out of an attempt to divorce them.—J. M. K., Rinard, Ill.

This subject has been recently treated of in the news columns and otherwise in The Blade. However, in answer to the above we shall quote from a recently published article from the pen of a writer who is presumably well informed.

"For a thousand years the church of Rome and the government of France have been closely allied. During the French revolution of 1789 there was a temporary dissolution of those relations and the government confiscated all property, real and personal, which was vested in the religious establishments. After the restoration Napoleon made peace with the vatican in order to secure the support of the Catholic population and entered into what is known as a concordat—a term commonly used to designate treaties with the holy see. Under this agreement the church property of all kinds automatically went back into the possession of the ecclesiastical authorities, although there is a dispute whether it was legally restored.

"The government of France agreed to pay the salaries of all the parish priests, bishops, archbishops and French cardinals, provided it was allowed to nominate the bishops. From that time until recently when a bishopric in France has become vacant the government has submitted a list of candidates from whom the popes have made their choice, and about $8,000,000 a year has been appropriated from the public treasury to pay the salries of the clergy in active service. A few years ago, shortly after the election of Pope Pius X., the latter refused to appoint any of the nominees of the French government to several vacant bishoprics because of their alleged liberal views and friendly relations with the Republican party. This rejection of the government candidates for the first time in history was attributed to Merry del Val, the papal secretary of state, a Spaniard, who is opposed to the United States for the same reason that he is to France—because they are republics. If he could have his way he would return to the customs and conditions of the fifteenth century.

"Pope Leo XIII. was one of the ablest statesmen and diplomatists of his time. Cardinal Rampolla, his secretary of state, has the reputation of being the ablest statesman and diplomatist in the Catholic church today. Pius X., the present pope, is neither a statesman nor a diplomatist and has no taste for politics. Realizing his lack of knowledge and experience and the unpopularity of his own democratic ideas, he has left the foreign relations and political affairs of the holy see entirely to his secretary of state and other advisers, who have entirely reversed the policy of the previous pontificate. Leo XIII. and Cardinal Rampolla cultivated intimate relations with the French republic, much to the sorrow af the old monarchical party in France. They had the foresight to realize that the republic is permanent and that the monarchy can never be restored. Hence they made friends with the Republican leaders and won them over to the support of the church, because France is the most important country in the world from an ecclesiastical point of view and has always been the chief source of the revenue of the holy see. But as soon as the present secretary of state assumed control of affairs at the Vatican, the old policy was reversed and the trouble commenced, first because the pope, under the advice of his secretary of state, would not appoint the candidates for bishops nominated by the French government and second, over a visit of President Loubet to the King of Italy."

James G. Blaine.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please give a sketch of James G. Blaine?—R. W. C., Fremont, O.

James Gillespie Blaine was born at West Brownsville, Pa., January 31, 1830, and died January 27, 1893. As a boy Blaine was precocious, with a strong taste for history and literature. At the age of 13 he entered Washington college, in native county, graduated at 17, and after teaching and studying law, removed to Augusta, Me., in 1854. He entered journalism and politics, joined the new Republican party the next year, was a delegate to its first convention in 1856, and in 1858 became chairman of the state Republican committee. During the same year he was elected to the state legislature, and re-elected three more terms. In 1862 he was sent to congress and re-elected six additional terms to the house, and became one of the most brilliant and fascinating members of that body. He was speaker of the house for three terms—1869-1875. In 1876-1881 he was United States senator. His prominence and his personal magnetism brought him into the minds of men as a candidate for the presidency. In 1876 he was one of the two leaders for the Republican nomination. In 1880, while beaten himself by the persistency of the Grant advocates, he dictated the nomination of Garfield, and entered the latter's cabinet in March, 1881, as secretary of state. He resigned this office in December, 1881, soon after President Arthur's accession. In 1884 he was on the fourth ballot nominated to the presidency. The campaign was one of the most notable ones of history. The defection of the Mugwumps and the alliterative utterance of Dr. Burchard are assigned as causes of his loss of New York state, the defeat of the "Plumed Knight," and the triumph of Grover Cleveland. In 1889 Blaine became secretary of state in President Harrison's cabinet. In June, 1892, he resigned and was an unsuccessful candidate for the Republican nomination.

Principles of Socialism.

Editor Question Bureau: Please print in your next issue the principles of socialism, and all the arguments for and against which space will permit.—W. A. A., Proctorsville, Vt.

We take it from the above question that there is going to be a debate on the question of Socialism, but the editor of Question Bureau is not in the market. He has no arguments to offer in favor of Socialism. It seems such a great menace to the welfare of this country that, if there are arguments in its favor, they are overshadowed by the harm that Socialism would bring to the country and to the people. We are frank to admit, however, that it has been a hard matter for us to get at the real principles of Socialism. We have found self-admitted and self-exploited Socialists disagreeing as to what Socialism is. Some will tell you that it would offer a much greater field for the development of individuality than is possible for the great mass of the people today. Another so-called or self-styled Socialist will tell you that this Utopia will be always with competition, and we know, if such should be the case, there would be no opportunity for the development of individuality. We are told by what may be regarded as eminent Socialist authority that the trust idea is Socialistic, inasmuch as it removes competition, and the next one that comes along to discuss the subject may tell us that Socialism is the one and only cure for the trust evil. But if we really understand the Socialist doctrine it does favor the removal of competition, for Socialist writers have long since pointed out what they call the "self-destructive character of competition." Herein lies the danger to the development of individuality, for without competition we should all be placed on the same plane; without competition there would be no advancement, and without advancement our country must lie dormant and eventually rot.

Ku-Klux Klan.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell, if you can, what the Ku-Klux Klan was—its object, where it originated, and who were its leaders? Also all other information concerning it you can.—E. J. C., Salter, Pa.

It has not been long since the above question was answered in the bureau, and we then gave more space to the subject than we can give now. The Ku-Klux Klan had more than one name. It was also called the White League, the Invisible Empire, and the Knights of the White Camelia. The society was founded at Pulaski, Tenn., 1866, during the reconstruction period following the civil war. It was originally organized for the purposes of amusement, but spread rapidly and terrorized the whole South by its mysterious movements. It opposed such organizations as the Loyal Union League and Lincoln Brotherhood, formed among the newly freed negroes by the more disreputable class of whites through the South. The negroes were in some cases persecuted and frightened and prevented from voting. In 1869 it was disbanded by the order of the government. Some members were arrested, but not convicted of misdemeanor.

Jacob Riis.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please give a short sketch of Jacob Riis, his life and work?—F. T. M., Ponca, Neb.

Jacob Augustus Riis is a journalist, author and social reformer. He was born in Ribe, Denmark, May 3, 1849. He came to the United States in 1869, and worked at different trades, until he became a reporter on the New York Sun. While employed in this manner he became familiar with the conditions in the slums of the city, and by his pictures and writings aroused interest in the reforms in the tenement house district, and became a leader in the reform movement. When Theodore Roosevelt was police commissioner, Riis' knowledge of the city was of great assistance to him, and the commissioner was usually accompanied on his midnight tours of investigation by Riis. Under the leadership of the latter police station lodging houses were abolished, small parks in crowded districts opened, playgrounds equipped, and many tenement house evils done away with. Riis, however, has held but one official position in connection with this reform work, that of secretary of the New York Small Parks commission in 1897. His first published book was How the Other Half Lives, which appeared in 1890. He has written many other books, among them Theodore Roosevelt, the Citizen.

Framers of the Constitution.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please give the names of the committee that framed the constitution of the United States?—W. R. R., Adrian, O.

The members of the committee were Gouverneur Morris, Johnson, Hamilton, Madison and King. It is said, however, that most of the work was done by Morris. The constitution, in its present form, is substantially as reported by this committee.

Compulsory Education.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell me something concerning compulsory school education?—O. S., Dickson, Tenn.

From the earliest ages laws making education compulsory, under certain conditions, have existed. The Greeks, Romans and others of the oldest civilized nations, or forms of government, had most rigorous laws regarding military education. The Spartans went so far as to regulate the food and the dress of the male children, in order to make the bodies of the youths have greater power of endurance, and thus fit them for being defenders and protectors of the state. As conditions changed it was easy to pass from laws making military education compulsory to laws making compulsory the study of other subjects deemed necessary to the welfare of the state. There has never in any nation been unanimity of opinion regarding the right of the state to make and enforce compulsory education laws. "Does the child belong to the parents or to the state?" The question has always been asked and always will be. Meanwhile most all nations have answered the question by enacting compulsory education laws. These laws usually necessitate free schools. However, in the United States generally, the free school came first, which is the reverse of the order followed by most European countries. Under the old condition of things the youth had to learn something to make him of value to the state, and in time the school in which he must learn had to be provided for him. The evolution from the camp of the Spartan and from the training for the athlete and the warrior to the elementary schools and colleges of today is not difficult to follow, as changes made needs and wants of nations different from the past. In the United States the agitation regarding compulsory education began almost with the establishment of the school, and in nearly every state, the law regulating the establishment and support of schools by some form of general taxation was followed by the compulsory education law. As the "child labor" question becomes prominent, compulsory education forced itself more and more upon public attention.

The modern movement toward compulsory education in the United States has been influenced by all the causes which existed in the past, and in addition all new phases of the "child labor" and street education questions. Jacob Riis says: "Three-fourths of all juvenile delinquency in New York is the result of truancy and the street life of children." New York state, early in the movement passed laws compelling attendance at school, but the penalty was not sufficient to make the breaking or neglecting of the law a serious matter. Under the revised statutes with duly authorized truant officers, and truant schools, the law is practically enforced. In 32 states and territories of the United States there are laws regulating the compulsory school attendance of minors. The child is compelled to attend the whole school year or a specified number of weeks. The age limits vary from 6, 7 and 8, on the one side, to 14, 15 and 16, on the other, except in Wyoming, where all under 21 years must attend school 12 weeks in the year. The penalties on parents and guardians for neglect to comply with the law, are in fines from $2 to $200 and imprisonment, and in some cases forfeiture of public money by school districts not enforcing the law. The truancy laws are becoming more rigid in the United States; and the laws in regard to the compulsory education of the teacher have kept pace with the laws regarding compulsory attendance.

Miscellaneous.

L. P. H., Little Birch, W. Va.: We can find no account of a revolutionary soldier by the name of James Walsham.

J. E. F., (no address given): Write to the agricultural department for the books you want.

W. H. B., Marcus, W. Va.: We can give you no information about the members of a denomination that calls itself Saints, whoever they are, and cannot give their official paper free advertising by mentioning it in these columns.

E. B. P., Fries, Va.: For answer to your question, write to the postoffice department.

W. M. C., Hope, Kan.: We published the list of 300 simplified spelling words once. Cannot repeat. You can doubtless obtain the list by writing, with addressed stamped envelope for reply, to Brander Matthews, 681 West End avenue, New York.

M. J. S., Gettysburg, Pa.: We would have to have more than one guess as to why a tract of land in Pennsylvania is called "Laballa." Laballe is a good French proper name, but we must give up your "Laballa."

M. C. L., Ripley, W. Va.: We are unable to give you any information concerning the "Batavia plan."

J. C. C., Waterford, O.: We believe the original manuscript of Gray's Elegy was recently purchased by J. Pierpont Morgan. If the price paid was stated, we have forgotten what it was.

D. F. K., Nasbie, Va.: The appointment of military cadets is made through congressmen of the various districts of the country. The whole matter has been gone over in these columns. The story is too long for repetition.

J. N. P., Takeen, Tex.: Apply to your G. A. R. post for button.

F. F., Sidney, O.: We cannot answer your question. Nothing in the way of an advertisement must appear in these columns, and that is what a reply to your inquiry would necessarily be.

H. W. D., Conneaut, O.: It is a rule of this department not to publish old poems upon request. Should we do so in one case it would open the way to hundreds of others, so that at times the Bureau space would be practically monopolized by this class of reading.

A FREE CURE FOR THE TOBACCO HABIT.

Mrs. J. Kay, "Box J 624," 6568 Drexel Ave., Chicago, Ill., still sends out her inexpensive and harmless remedy for the tobacco habit, which cured her husband and hundreds of others. The prescription and directions sent free for 2c stamp, also has cure for Liquor Habit.

TELEPHONE INSTRUMENTS THAT ARE UNIQUE

"The love of display and the desire to have something different from the 'hoi polloi' prevalent among the newly rich sometimes take peculiar forms," says Telephony (Chicago, August).) "One of the queerest of these is the demand for a telephone different from those in common use. Silver mouthpieces, ivory receivers and hand-carved boxes of rare and expensive woods are some of the elaborations called for. But to all such requests the telephone companies return a polite but firm refusal. Their plea is that the highest price that could be reasonably asked would not repay the time and expense in preparing new designs and providing extra parts. However, where there is a call for a telephone case to harmonize with the finish or color scheme of a certain room, telephone companies are willing to make concessions within certain limits."

FOUR ENGLISH GIRLS.

As a newspaper man was descending the steps to the police station, he was hailed by four English girls, who had been sitting on the sun-parlor platform, at the fire department station, swapping yarns with Charlotte's fire fighters. The young women, clad in their new winter clothes, with their hair done up in the latest style, are neat, sprightly, and attractive looking.

As they approached the reporter asked: "Are you lassies preparing to depart for the old country?"

"No; we want to stay here," said Maud Winroe.

"I want to stay," said Annie Mayer.

"So do I," said Annie Goode.

"What about the maiden with the mellow eyes and the nut-brown hair?" asked the scribe, as his eyes met those of Mary Cox.

"Is it me that you're speaking to?" asked the shy girl with the auburn locks.

"Certainly it is."

"Me hair is chestnut," she said.

"I see. Are you quite sure that you do not want to return to England?"

"We want to stay here and grow up with the country. This is a fine city, and we like the place and the people. Be sure and put it is the paper that we want to stay here."

Maud Winroe spoke for the quartette, but what she said was sanctioned by the other girls.

"Yes, put it in the paper," said Annie Goode.

"Sure," said Mary Hall.

"I don't want to go," said Annie Mayer.

After leaving the girls the Observer man called on Matthew Yandle and asked him what he thought of the English lassies.

"Why," said Matthew, "they have conducted themselves becomingly here. I see them every day. They are just like any lot of young women, who are busy doing nothing. I think they deserve sympathy. They are all far from their people and must look out for themselves.—Charlotte Observer.

The Noise He Wanted to Hear.

Agent—"How can I manage to secure your attention for a few minutes to the subject of an investment in mining stock?"

Victim (who is already interested in six mining companies)—"You can't manage to do it at all unless you can make a noise like a dividend."—Chicago Tribune.

STORIES OF ART FORGERIES.

Discoveries of Skillfully Executed Copies of Works of Great Masters.

The sensational discovery that out of 250 pictures in the Holburne Art museum, Bath, attributed to the greatest painters the world has known nearly two hundred are forgeries raises a grave doubt, says the London Tit-Bits, as to the genuineness of the treasures of art in our galleries and museums.

It is not long since the Corot landscape presented by the Prince of Wales to the Dublin Art gallery was pronounced a fraud by some of our leading critics, the gold tiara of Saftapharnes, in the Louvre museum, was discovered to be a forgery, the Nelson statuette in the museum of the United Service institution said to have been presented by George III to the great admiral was similarly condemned, or since Mr. MacWhirter, R. A., exposed a large number of sham Corots, Turners and Constables.

Mr. Frith, R. A., told us recently of a collection of Landseers and other modern masters on which a private collector had lavished a fortune and every one of which was a forgery, while many of the cherished pictures in Continental galleries are declared to be just as fraudulent. "There are," says Mr. MacWhirter, "not enough old masters to go around. There are more of their reputed works than could possibly have been painted. Hundreds of imitations are sold as genuine."

So skillfully, too, are these forgeries produced that even clever arists are deceived by them. Some years ago Mr. MacWhirter himself purchased a disreputable old canvas from an Italian sailor, of which the vender gave a very plausible history. The painting, A Holy Family, had, he said, been stolen from a church by a Greek sailor, and as it had all the appearances of a genuine old master the R. A. gladly paid £40 for it. "It turned out to be a 'blend' of seven old masters, done a few years back by a hack painter who knocked them off by the dozen."

Mr. Rudolf Lehmann tells an amusing story of a similar imposition practised on himself. Returning to Rome after some years' absence he was attracted by a picture which he saw in the shop of an art dealer. It was an "old master," and the dealer, after mentioning a tall figure for it, gave a most impressive and detailed history of the canvas. Fortunately for Mr. Lehmann, he too knew something of its history, for years before he had painted it himself and had thought so little of it that when he shut up his studio in Rome he left it behind as lumber!

Corot, not long before his death, chanced to pay a visit to the studio of a young artist and was amazed to find no fewer than thirty canvases, all splendid imitations of his own work and all bearing his signature. Sidney Cooper, too, once stated in a court of law that of 150 "Coopers" that had been submitted to him only eleven were genuine. And Mr. Dudley Hardy said, referring to forgeries of his father's pictures:

"It is quite true that there are literally thousands of spurious T. B. Hardys in dealers' shops and private collections, and it is time that the fraud should be exposed. I have often been consulted by intending purchasers of my father's work and should only be too glad to place my advice at the disposal of anyone who is in doubt about the genuineness of supposed T. B. Hardys. I think I owe it to my father's reputation to help in suppressing the nefarious practice which has been going on for years."

An interesting story which shows with what fidelity the work of even such a difficult artist as Turner can be imitated is told in connection with Ruskin. In 1875 he sent a number of facsimiles of Turner's pictures to a London exhibition with this note: "I have given my best attention during upward of ten years to train a copyist to perfect fidelity in rendering the works of Turner, and have now succeeded in enabling him to produce facsimiles so near as to look like replicas—facsimiles which I must sign with my name to prevent their being sold for real vignettes."

In another case a well known firm of West End dealers bought for £4,000 a canvas which they were quite satisfied was a Constable, and sold it to a peer for £6,000 more than they paid for it. Great was their amazement when the picture was pronounced a forgery by an expert. Legal proceedings followed, and it was ultimately discovered that the "Constable" was the work of a living artist in the north of England, who had been glad to dispose of it for £300.

More remarkable still is the story told of Landseer. One day the famous animal painter was present at an auction sale at which two "Landseers"—one genuine, the other admittedly a copy—were offered. The two canvases were submitted to Sir Edwin, who after a careful examination pronounced both of them his own work. When artists, critics and dealers are thus imposed on by forgeries it is little wonder that private collectors or even the experts of our public galleries are victimized.

STORY OF HER LIFE.

Twenty years ago a young girl came to Chicago from a little Minnesota village of 500 people. She had just enough money to pay three months' tuition in a business college. She lived with a relative and worked for her board. In three months a doctor offered her a position, although the college would not give her any references, because "she wasn't competent." She began with the doctor at $6 a week and was raised to $18. For the four years she kept the job she attended lectures, sermons and anything she could get in the evening for extra money. In that four years the little Minnesota farm girl saved $500. Real estate got this up to a couple of thousands, which was invested in a foundry, and, working as stenographer here, Miss Freeman became the purchasing agent. "I used to get there at 7:30 in the morning," said Miss Freeman, "and never stopped longer than twenty minutes for lunch, and did not go home till 7 at night. I worked eleven years without a summer vacation." A good chance to sell out from the foundry was what put Miss Freeman on "easy street" financially, and made her take a long vacation. Let the woman of leisure imagine what it would be to hustle off to the business woman's exchange as soon as you stepped off the train after getting back from Europe. After leaving her name for a position, Miss Freeman went over to Lake street to get the job of auditing some books, something she had just that moment heard of. This was one of the accomplishments learned in the foundry. Asked for references, she was able to mention the name of the firm downstairs of whom she had bought leather. She was hired and a trial balance was struck in two weeks, and the position she was looking for materialized. She became cashier at the Palmer house. Next a place with a smelting and refining company was taken because it offered a promise of succeeding to the business. Being convinced later that she was not being given fair play as to the interest in the concern, Miss Freeman decided to go entirely for herself in insurance. Living expenses, and all the time a little more money to invest here and there came out of this, while down in Alabama is a bit of land being planted with soft shelled pecans, in which there is a dream of a southern home some day when she is tired of working—a home in which there are birds and flowers and a little income from the pecans.—Chicago Tribune.

Needed It Badly.

Spirit—"Is this heaven?"

St. Peter—"Yes."

"I was afraid of it. Good-by."

"Why—aren't you coming in?"

"No, thanks. During my life I played the harp on an excursion steamer and I want a rest."—Life.

An Impediment in His Speech.

Mr. W. D. Turner started to Misenheimer's station in Stanly county recently to make a speech. He got left in Salisbury. The train had been gone one hour before he arrived in the city.—Iredell County (N. C.) Mascot.

DOGS TRAINED TO RESCUE

Employed by the Life-Saving Corps of Paris Police Force.

The training of the young Newfoundlands that are periodically added to the police staff is one of the sights of Paris. It takes place in the headquarters of the agents plongeurs, a small building on the quayside not far from the Cathedral Notre Dame. Dogs and men enter into the exercises with zest and there is usually a crowd of spectators. Only dummy figures are used, but the "rescue" is nevertheless a realistic affair.

The big dogs know perfectly well what the exercise means and they wait with comic enthusiasm until the dummy is thrown into the water, and an agent plongeur rushes out on hearing the splash and outcry of the spectators. While the men are busy with lines and life buoys the dog plunges into the water, swims to the dummy, watches with rare intelligence for an opportunity to get an advantageous hold and then it either swims ashore or waits for its master, who brings to the rescue long poles, cork belts and the like. The more experienced dogs, however, will easily effect a rescue from first to last without human assistance, and it is an inspiring sight to watch them looking for a foothold on the slippery sides of the river bank and pulling the heavy dummy into a place of safety.

It takes about four months to train the dogs efficiently. They are also charged with the protection of their masters when attacked by the desperate ruffians who sleep under the arches of the bridge in summer. Thus in Paris the police dogs are a proved success.

MAKING THIMBLES.

The gold from which thimbles are made is bought at a United States subtreasury in the form of snug little ingots, brick shaped and two and a half inches long and an inch and a quarter wide and an inch thick, says the Chicago Chronicle. Each one contains, of pure gold 24 carats fine, metal of the value of $600.

Gold of this fineness would be much too soft for thimbles, and it is alloyed down to 14 carats, in which condition it is rolled into sheets of suitable thickness. In the first process of manufacture a sheet of this gold is run into a machine which cuts out of it a disk in size sufficient to form a thimble, the same machine stamping this disk also into the form of a straight-sided capsule with irregular edges.

Then the thimble blank goes into another machine, in which the die stamps it into its conical shape. Out of this machine it goes into an annealing furnace for tempering, and from that into an acid bath for cleaning and the removal of the fire coating.

Then the thimble is put into a lathe to be turned down to its final shape and dimensions.

With repeated applications of the tool the operator brings the crown of the thimble into its perfect form and cuts down along the thimble's sides to bring the walls of the thimble to the requisite thickness, defines and finishes the smooth band that runs around the lower part of the thimble and brings into relief the rounded rim that encircles the thimble at its opening, at once to give it a finishing ornamental grace there and to stiffen it. The glistening little gold shavings that he cuts off in these various operations all fall into a canvas trough.

It lacks yet the familiar indentations in its surface that serve to support the needle and to hold it in place. These the thimblemaker now proceeds to make. It is done with a tool called a knurle. An end knurle is simply a handle having set in it a tiny, thin, revolving wheel of steel upon whose periphery is a continuous encircling row of little bosses or knobs corresponding in size to the indentations to be made. The side knurle has, in place of such a wheel, a little steel cylinder of a length sufficient to cover that section of the thimble that is to be indented on its sides, this cylinder having knobs all over its surface, as the end knurle wheel has around its edges, and turning, like the wheel, on its axis.

The thimble in the lathe is turning at 2,500 revolutions a minute, and it seems as if the applications to its surface of any sort of tool with protuberances on it must leave there only a jangled and mixed-up lot of irregular marks. But now, with the end knurle, the thimble-maker makes an indentation in the center of the top of the thimble and then proceeds rapidly and with perfect certainty with the end knurle to describe around that center concentric rings of indentations, with the indentations all perfectly spaced from the center of the circumference of the top.

You may see him do this, but you can't tell how he is able to do it. And then with the side knurle he makes the indentations in the sides of the thimble, making them as well, as he deftly presses the tool against it, indentations that run absolutely uniform and true and that end at their lower edge in a perfectly true encircling line.

HIGH PRICE FOR A CENT.

New York Times.

A specimen of the first cent struck in the United States mint in 1793, with thirteen links in a circle on the reverse, was sold for $82 recently at the end of a two days' sale of coins held at the Hotel Bartholdi by Geoffrey B. Adams. Daniel R. Kennedy auctioned them off.

Some of the prices exceeded any ever made before. Two half cents, struck in 1836 and 1852, brought $42.50 and $35, respectively. Of the cents struck in 1794 56 varieties were disposed of, two varieties bringing $30 each. A flying eagle cent of 1856 brought $12. Six pattern trade dollars issued in 1873 brought $24. Much interest was shown by those present in the tokens that at one time passed for money in this country. One showing the head of Andrew Jackson on one side and the inscription, "The Bank Must Perish" on the other, which passed for a cent during President Jackson's administration in the late '30s, brought $22.50.

Several fine colonial pieces of this country were sold. An Annapolis shilling brought $4. A pine tree shilling, struck in Massachusetts in 1652, sold for $15, while a threepence of the same coinage brought $9. A twopence, "Rossa Americana," struck in England in 1722 for use in this country, sold for $11, and a copy of the New York cents, which during the latter part of the eighteenth century were coined at a private mine at Newburg, brought $3.70.

FLYING CARGOES.

Steam and electricity have wrought no more spectacular miracles than in the handling of cargoes on the great lakes.

One of the first cargoes of iron ore ever mined in the Lake Superior region was trundled aboard a little schooner about fifty years ago. Four days were required to put 300 tons aboard her. A week was required to get the ore out of her. Two seasons ago the great steel steamship Augustus B. Wolvin loaded more than 10,000 tons of ore in eighty-nine minutes, or in less than an hour and a half. And this huge cargo was jerked out of her in a little more than four hours.—

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER, 20, 1906.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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Current Comment

And there's Noah Webster; requiescat in pace, whatever that means.

The czar wants Count Witte to return to power. When in doubt the czar sends for Witte.

Blessed will be the peacemaker who steps in and ends the trouble in France.

The Indiana school teacher who was discharged because she was beautiful will have no trouble getting sympathy.

What's the loss of $140,000,000 to John D. Rockefeller, since he is able to eat mince pie and digest it?

The $20,000,000 with which Secretary Shaw is to relieve the money stringency will come handy about January 1.

This talk of war with Japan is absurd. It has not been a year since Secretary Taft ate a whale with the mikado.

Indiana now ranks fourth as a coming state. Let us hope that her literary geniuses are not writing the labels for the cans.

Russian peasants are said to be living on hay. And it isn't put up in fancy boxes and advertised as health food, either.

Japan says she would not take the Philippines as a gift. Then it will really be safe to leave them out after night?

Judging from some of the remarks made by Walter Wellman, he does not regard Peary as much of a pole hunter anyhow.

As a prophet Overseer Voliva, of Zion City, is not a success. Old man Dowie, with his tongue tied, could beat him.

"Russia would like to help the United States check Japanese aggressions." How much money does Russia want to borrow?

Congressmen will continue to spell in the old way, or as nearly as they can, charging all bad breaks to their stenographers.

The Bellamy Storer incident may raise the question whether it is right for a man to tell a fish story for the protection of his wife.

Tariff revision sentiment is reported to be gaining ground in congress, but at last accounts Uncle Joe Cannon had not changed the angle of his cigar.

It is not easy to believe the story that Great Britain wants to get control of the air. There are no gold or diamond mines in the air.

Kansas newspapers are discussing the question of whether there is a hell. A few years ago they would have admitted that there was without discussion.

To those people who continue to ask for Mrs. Russell Sage's address: Mrs. Sage is making no special effort to give a life-like imitation of Santa Claus.

Fame comes easy to some men. All that Senators Spooner and LaFollette have to do to attract public attention is to pass each other without speaking.

If there is such a thing as "swollen wealth" John D. Rockefeller is convinced that it isn't something that hurts, like a felon or the toothache.

A lady scientist has started for Java in search of the missing link. She is not, presumably, the kind of woman who will fall in love with him at first sight.

The opponents of free congressional seeds are making another strong fight. Can't make them believe that the prosperity of the country is grown from free seeds.

With trial marriages in vogue, what would become of the old-fashioned justice of the peace, who likes to boast of being able to tie a knot that will hold?

In the event that those who are discussing the question, "What is whisky?" cannot agree, they might decide to label it with the skull and cross-bones and let it go at that.

Upon second thought it is believed that Noah Webster will postpone the matter of turning over in his grave, pending a definite settlement of the simplified spelling controversy.

San Francisco is going to have a world's fair to celebrate the discovery of the Pacific Ocean, which was, no doubt, one of the best things that could have happened for San Francisco.

A New Hampshire man says that during sixty years of married life he has never been angry at his wife. Artists who paint pictures of angels should hereafter keep this New Hampshire man in mind.

John D. Rockefeller's fortune "accumulates at the rate of $1.90 every time the clock ticks," say the men who have estimated his income. But the fortune would continue to accumulate just the same if the clock should stop.

WOOD FAMINE THREATENED.

Consul Teichmann, at Elberfield, Saxony, strikes a note of warning in his official report to the government. He has made a study of the world's wood supply and of the demand, and he observes that the time is rapidly approaching when the problem will assume huge proportions. While there are hundreds of millions of acres untouched by the woodsman's axe, the world is annually consuming enormous quantities and constantly increasing its demand.

Reforestration has been given attention by some nations, and in Germany especially laws have been passed to prevent waste, but there is need for concerted action of all civilized countries if we would avoid an actual wood famine. Within the last few years congress has taken cognizance of the danger and created a forestry commission, but little has been accomplished in the way of replenishment. Some of the large railroad companies, anticipating a dearth of tie timber, have purchased land and set out trees for the purpose of growing a new supply, but this is a mere drop in the bucket. It is believed that a systematic effort should be made, first to prevent the waste of the standing timber, and second, to set out trees wherewith the country can be assured of a future timber growth. The task is a prodigious one, especially because it is difficult to arouse interest in a project that does not directly concern the present generation, but it is one nevertheless that should not be neglected.

A century after all is but a moment in the world's history, and when one considers what has been done in this country to denude the earth of its trees within a hundred years, the seriousness of the situation should appeal to our intelligence.

THE TAXING OF WEALTH.

Two notable addresses were delivered before the National Civic Federation this week by men prominent in the industrial life of the nation, and both bore directly on propositions advanced by President Roosevelt in his last message to congress.

Andrew Carnegie spoke for an inheritance tax, one so graded that "a tremendous share" of the fortunes left by enormously wealthy men shall go to the state. Mr. Carnegie's contention is that the millionaire did not make his wealth—but rather the state has made it for him. The coal, the copper or the gold that he has dug out of the ground belong in the abstract to the people who use it and who produce the use that makes it valuable. No man has a right to pauperize his children, nor must the state demand it, but it should have the remainder after these dependents have been properly cared for. Mr. Carnegie reasons that this plan promotes two things—justice and the future of the child. The heir to millions starts life under a handicap, and if this can be removed, he is the gainer, while at the same time the state receives its just proportion of the wealth which it has had a large part in creating. Mr. Carnegie believes with the President that the dissipation of swollen fortunes is a question that must be met for the public welfare.

Mr. M. E. Ingalls, the railroad man, was equally earnest in his plea for an income tax as being the fairest plan for compelling the wealthy class to pay its just proportion of the burden of government. He objects to a graded tax as putting a check on thrift and energy. While in respect to the income tax he differed with Mr. Carnegie, who regarded it a menace to business, he was with the iron master on the proposition of the inheritance tax and gave several illustrations to show where such a tax would be efficacious as a remedy for the evils of the day.

Both of these men are wealthy, Carnegie enormously so. The fortunes of both would be directly affected by the inheritance tax, but they are broad-minded men of prophetic vision, and their altruistic views should make a good impression. It is a healthy sign when such men advocate policies that may be detrimental to their personal interests, but which, they feel, make for social bettermnet.

GRABBING PUBLIC LANDS.

That part of Secretary Hitchcock's annual report referring to thievery in the public lands department is of special interest to the country, showing as it does the boldness of the grafters and the energetic efforts put forth by the secretary to punish the men responsible for the crime.

It would seem that as the public domain narrows fewer attempts would be made to plunder, but this is not the case. For years this species of thieving has gone on and has been indulged in not only by railroads and their tools but by state officials and even by United States senators until the government has been robbed of millions of acres and their boldness and cupidity have led them to continue the work even though they knew Uncle Sam's officers were on thir track.

Secretary Hitchcock has proved himself a veritable avenger to these land pirates. In his report he shows that nearly five hundred persons have been indicted for robbing the public domains and eighty-nine have been convicted. The guilty are not merely agents of corporations, but high officials, including two United States senators. As the secretary says, every step in the investigation has been met with strong opposition and powerful influences have not hesitated aggressively to exert every agency that could be commanded to weaken the hand of the law. The secretary also complains that in some instances the courts have felt this influence and where convictions were secured the punishment has been so inadequate as to encourage rather than deter violators.

This is to be expected. Such an organized conspiracy, extending over many years cannot be broken up in a few months. The land-grabbers have been so successful that they will not desist so long as money and political influence can be used to shield them. Secretary Hitchcock has proved the right man to break their power because he cannot be swerved from his duties. The most powerful influences has only made him the more determined to run the thieves to earth and he has earned the thanks of the entire country for his well-directed and aggressive work.

In a short time James R. Garfield will take charge of the department of the interior and all who know him believe he will pursue the policy inaugurated by Secretary Hitchcock and in the end land grabbing will be wiped out, because to continue it means heavy fines and years of imprisonment.

DISSOLUTION OF THE REICHSTAG

The dissolution of the German reichstag by imperial decree has thrown that country into political turmoil. The elections must be held not later than February 11, which permits of only a two months' campaign. The Socialists, who have gained ground rapidly during the last decade, have already taken the field and confidently expect to make heavy gains in representation.

The cause of the dissolution is the failure of the government to pass the bill appropriating funds for prosecuting the colonial program in Southwest Africa. The total appropriations provided for in the budget was upward of $7,000,000, enough to maintain the African army to its present footing. The opposition maintained that only a small military force is needed to protect German interests in Africa, and proposed a horizontal reduction in appropriations. The vote resulted in a defeat of the government by a small margin, the opposition combining the Socialists and Clericals.

The emperor was quick to act. Chancellor Von Buelow delivered a dramatic speech and immediately after the announcement of the vote declared the reichstag dissolved. The government accepts the challenge implied by the rejection of its budget and will appeal to the patriotism of the people to sustain it at the coming elections.

The outcome is by no means certain. The wave of Socialism that has been sweeping over Germany has not yet reached its greatest voulme, and it will cause no surprise of that party secures a much larger membership in the new reichstag. A second defeat for the government will force it to moderate its policy of colonial expansion and may encourage its enemies in Southwest Africa to greater activity. For the next few months, at least, Germany will have its hands full looking after its own household.

SOUNDS LIKE A JOKE.

This country has become greatly excited recently over the segregation of Japanese in the schools of San Francisco. The entire Pacific coast was worried because of the imminence of the "yellow peril." President Roosevelt's message added fuel to the flame. There was talk of war with Japan and the timid ones could almost hear the guns of the Japanese navy pouring shot into San Francisco and Seattle.

How great is the peril? Where the real facts are known the whole matter seems like a joke. Of the seventy primary and grammar schools in San Francisco, forty-seven had no Japanese students at the time the board of education issued its famous order. All told there were ninety-three Jap children in the schools of that city. Less than half of them were over 14 years of age. A large per cent had not reached their teens. This is the "invasion" which has troubled the country and is worrying the good people of the Pacific coast!

ANOTHER BROWNSVILLE STORY.

There are so many discrepancies in the various statements concerning the Brownsville affair that one is puzzled to know the truth. Colonel Garlington, acting for the war department, made a thorough investigation, and it was on his recommendation that the colored troops, members of which are alleged to have participated in the riot, were dismissed without honor.

Now comes the Constitutional league with a story of an entirely different version. It sent a representative to Brownsville, and this man has discovered that the accused troopers had no hand in "shooting up the town." He reports that citizens, who were incensed at the presence of the colored soldiers, perpetrated the outrage, and made it appear that the soldiers were the real instigators. These citizens dressed themselves in khakies and scattered government cartridge shells, which, in some manner they had secured from the barracks, in order to fasten suspicion on the colored troops.

This statement is backed up by affidavits from a large number of soldiers denying any participation in the outrage.

That the league has apparently made out a strong case, there can be no dispute. But whether it will stand the probe is yet to be determined. If the President has been basely deceived and irrefutable proof of this deception is furnished, he will hasten to revoke his order and punish those who have imposed on him. But on the other hand if the conspiracy can be fastened to the other end of the line, the Constitutional league will find itself in a mass of difficulties.

OUR POSTAL AFFAIRS.

Postmaster General Cortelyou discusses the affairs of his department in his annual report like a thorough-going business man. Uncle Sam's postoffice has had the best year in its history, in the amount of matter handled and in the manner of work performed, and yet it is far from perfection. "Too much politics and too little business" declares Cortelyou, and he would reverse the order by extending the merit system. There is no reason on earth why pernicious politics should have a foothold in the service, although as long as we have a Republican form of government its employes will not and should not lose their rights of participation. But on the other hand, a faithful employe ought not to be punished by dismissal solely on the ground that he does his own thinking, instead of permitting some one to do it for him.

Mr. Cortelyou is not worried over the deficiency, for he regards the dissemination of information as an important adjunct to prosperity, and what the government loses in conducting the department is made up in other ways through the benefits actually conferred by the department. He recommends, therefore, an increase in expenditures in order that the rural routes may be improved, the service generally made more efficient, and he especially urges that employes be better paid. He cites the number of clerks and carriers who have resigned from the service, as evidence that the wages now paid are inadequate, and he believes that better remuneration will have the effect to elevate the standard of efficiency.

The postmaster general reiterates in his report a statement made in a recent interview regarding mail transportation abroad. He is of the opinion this country has reached a position of such importance in the world's affairs that it should have facilities of distribution equal to those of other countries, and it follows he favors any feasible plan that will accomplish this object.

KNOCKOUT FOR FONETICS.

As far as government documents are concerned, they will be printed in the orthodox orthography of the standard lexicographers and not according to the dictum of the simplied spelling board. When congress took the matter with apparent seriousness and proceeded to legislate, the jig was up. President Roosevelt is as earnest as ever in his belief that we should simplify our spelling, but he is not willing to place more pressing affairs in jeopardy by forcing the issue at this time.

There is a suspicion that the resolution requiring official documents to be printed by established rules of spelling was introduced for the purpose of bringing on a controversy with the President, but if so, he checkmated the move by promptly bowing to legislative will. That settles the question for the present, and it is not likely to be renewed at least during the present session. President Roosevelt has more weighty matters on his mind and he won't be switched from the main track by any dispute over comparative trifles.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEACE PRIZE.

While it was known a year ago that the Norwegian parliament would confer the Nobel peace price on President Roosevelt for his achievement in ending the war between Russia and Japan, the formal award was not made until yesterday.

This is the first peace prize to fall to an American and it is significant that it was given to a man whom the world looked upon as having a liking for war. When Mr. Roosevelt became president there were many men and women here in the United States who feared that he was too pugnacious, too quick to appeal to force and that there was danger that his impulsiveness would lead this country into international trouble, while foreign statesmen predicted dire happenings as the result of his elevation to the highest executive office in the country.

Former recipients of the Nobel peace prize earned it by writing or talking of preventing wars, but the prize this year goes to President Roosevelt because he actually intervened and brought about peace after one of the most desperate contests of modern times. This supposed man of war stands before the world as the greatest and most effective champion of peace.

The President purposes making such use of the prize as might be expected of him. The prize money, $40,000, he will dedicate to the promotion of more amicable relations between capital and labor. For such a work this sum of money may seem small but back of it is the prestige of the great man who won the prize and when everything is considered all will agree that the President's purpose will be carried out and that the permanent industrial peace committee to be established at Washington "will work out for the cause of just and righteous peace in the industrial world as in the world of nations."

CHICAGO STREET RAILWAYS.

Indications point strongly to an early solution of Chicago's street railway muddle. At a recent conference between the council committee and representatives of the transportation lines, a tentative agreement was reached with fair prospects of a perfect understanding.

The new deal is a compromise between the advocates of municipal ownership and those who favored another long term franchise. It contemplates a limited lease with conditions whereby the city may take over the properties at an agreed valuation whenever it seems fit. The tenure of the companies on the other hand may be perpetual if they give first class service.

The feature of this agreement that will attract some attention is that while the railroads grant concessions to the city treasury, they will be permitted to charge their patrons straight five-cent fares. That is, the city of Chicago believes there is a five-cent service and wants it, rather than a poor service at reduced fares. The companies have promised to reorganize their different properties, practically rebuild and re-equip their lines, and furnish rapid transit. The advantages of such a system to the city far outweigh in the minds of the officials the question of a low fare.

CENTRALIZATION.

If the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald speaks by the card, President Roosevelt, instead of yielding by so much as an inch on the Japanese question, is preparing to renew his attack on the attitude of the San Francisco schools with more vigor than ever. It is asserted that he will send a special message to congress this week, dealing with this question, and in a manner that will admit of no doubt as to where he stands.

It does not require a careful analysis of the President's recent utterances, official and unofficial, to reveal that he is irrevocably committing himself to a policy of centralization far in advance of anything he has yet attempted. And it is this policy which will guide his recommendations to congress dealing with the dispute that has grown out of the action of the San Francisco school authorities. The idea that a state can enact and enforce laws harmful to the natural interest is repugnant to him. He has already said that the proposition to exclude Japanese students from the public schools is absurd, and his forthcoming message, it is asserted, will deal more specifically with this aspect of the case as it relates to the federal government.

That public sentiment is being gradually weaned from the old doctrine of states' rights is demonstrated by the approval given the recently enacted regulative measures passed by congress and by the demand for other laws of the same general nature. Senator Beveridge's child labor law is considered eminently proper, whereas a few years ago it would have been looked upon as an attempt to usurp the inherited functions of the state. But it is recognized that while most of the units might agree on a uniform law, some which deem the employment of children as essential to their local material welfare, might stand out. So also with the divorce evil. Probably never would all the states in the Union subscribe to a uniform law, yet both of these problems affect the public weal, and because no state is surrounded by a Chinese wall as regards its people or its industries, laws that shall apply to all alike are imperative.

There will be vigorous protests over the doctrine which the President advocates. It will be called radical, even revolutionary by men who have not kept abreast of the times. They will nominate it the Roosevelt doctrine, although, as a matter of fact, he is really marching shoulder to shoulder with the people and reflecting their desires. We have been drifting into the new doctrine by the force of circumstances and because of changed conditions in our national life, not because President Roosevelt is urging it.

CHARGED WITH CONTEMPT.

An outcome of the Gillette trial, and one which is likely to exert a far wider influence on society than his execution, is the arrest of three New York newspaper men who are charged with contempt of court. Immediately following the announcement of the verdict, the publication which these men represented came out with a sensational article, in effect asserting that the jury was intimidated by popular sentiment and that its decision was a gross miscarriage of justice.

The attack is not without precedent. Some newspapers assume that the boasted liberty of the press means unrestricted license and that any attempt to curtail this license is a blow at individual expression. Yet in the hands of an unscrupulous man, there is no more potent weapon for evil than a newspaper. Generally speaking, while great latitude has been permitted and enjoyed in almost every other direction, there has been a wholesome respect for the courts and for the courts' opinion. And in the progress of trials reputable newspapers refrain from uttering that which may influence the jury ar appear to direct the judges in the performance of their duties. Not that judges or juries are infallible, but because they are a part of the machinery which, under the Constitution, is provided by the people for the administration of justice, and every inference that they are false to their oaths, tends to weaken confidence in their conclusions.

The Hartford Courant seems to regard the arrests for contempt as an illustration of the modern tendency to regulate. This tendency is manifest in many ways and especially in the matter of managing railroads and conducting large financial interests. But we think the analogy is more imaginary than real. True, it is rare indeed that news writers are held responsible in criminal proceedings for criticism of public officials, but there are limits even to the liberty of the press, and the men in question have overstepped these limits, unless, indeed, they can prove their charges, and that is not regarded within reason.

When we consider the freedom granted by common consent to the newspapers it is rather remarkable that there so few complaints. But the fact is the press occupies a peculiar relation to the public. It gives news for universal consumption, and while variety is desirable, truthfulness is its chief stock in trade. Once a newspaper gains a reputation for unreliability and it loses its standing in the community even if it retains a circulation among a certain class who hold sensationalism above all else.

The judge who made complaint against the correspondents is quoted as declaring that the incident "will undoubtedly result in legislation placing the public press of New York under the control of the courts to a greater extent than it is at present." We hope he is expressing his individual opinion, and that there will be no attempt of the kind. If the men are found guilty of contempt and are punished, as they deserve to be, it will operate as a salutary check on all those newspapers that cater to morbid passions and prejudices. As for the others, the truthful and the temperate, they have demonstrated in the past their ability to regulate themselves, and the character of the men who conduct them is ample safeguard that they will continue to observe the proprieties.

INVESTIGATE THE TARIFF.

Congressman Campbell, of Kansas, has introduced a bill in congress providing for a commission whose duty it shall be to investigate the relations that the tariff bears to trusts and corporations. The purpose is to secure data wherewith to revise present schedules in a scientific manner and wholly apart from its political aspects.

It is a matter of common knowledge that some of the tariffs have operated to bring enormous profits to manufacturers at the expense of American consumers. These irregularities can be properly adjusted only after a careful inquiry and to assure this inquiry, the author of the bill designates that a commission shall be appointed.

It is not the purpose to assail the principle of protection, but rather to strengthen it, for under the present schedule in some instances protection has been subordinated to individual greed. The gross injustices can be remedied without disturbing the corner stone of Republicanism, and public sentiment in favor of this kind of revision has become so strong that it can no longer be ignored by the dominant party with safety.

VICARIOUS PUNISHMENT.

The effect of fining railroad officials for rebating, as a punishment, loses some of its force when the amount of the fines is charged up against freight earnings, as was the case recently where C., B. & Q. employes were convicted. Instead of the guilty paying the penalty, it was saddled on the stockholders of the company.

There is only one sure way of getting the right man in offenses of this kind. Fines can be paid from anyone of a hundred different departments, but there is no device in the railroad world whereby the stockholders can be called on to serve a term in jail for the delinquencies of their officials. In that contingency every man must stand on his own responsibility and suffer for his folly.

NEW STORY NEXT WEEK.

The closing chapter of The Pillar of Light appears in this issue, and The Blade is ready with another story for its readers.

Next week we begin the publication of The Woman in the Alcove, by Katherine Green, who has written many popular books. The Woman in the Alcove is a detective story, with an interesting thread of love and romance running through it. We have every reason to believe that our readers will find the tale quite interesting.

GREAT COMET DUE IN 1910

Halley's, Most Famous of Them All, Will Show in the Year Named.

The most famous of all comets, although not the largest and most brilliant, will again be visible in 1910. This is Halley's comet, so called from its identification by the great astronomer who was the friend of Sir Isaac Newton. Halley's investigations of astronomical records led him to assert that the comet which he had observed in 1682 had appeared in 1531 and 1607 and to predict its reappearance in 1759.

The fulfillment of his prophecy excited the most intense scientific interest and established beyond doubt the periodicity of comets and their movements in orbits determined by the laws of gravitation. Its last appearance was in 1835, its period varying between seventy-five and seventy-six years on account of the perturbing attractions of Jupiter and Saturn in certain parts of its orbit. It was by that time possible to calculate its movements with so much greater accuracy than before that it made its perihelion passage within four days of the predicted date.

It was not then a very grand object to the naked eye, but the light of its nucleus surpassed that of second-magnitude stars and was comparable with that of some reddish stars of the first magnitude, such as Aldebaran and Antares. Its tail while the comet was approaching the sun attained to a length of twenty degrees.

ANCIENT FREE DELIVERY

Indians Had One for Generations, Says One Investigator.

"Archaeological research reveals many important details of the domestic economy of ancient times, but practically nothing that indicates the character or even the existence of what are today regarded as vital branches of an adequate public service," says Frank Abial Flower, in Records of the Past. "Perhaps there were no such branches in those times, and perhaps there were many of which we have no inkling, because they were organized, like an afternoon reception, in such form that they could and actually did disappear without leaving palpable traces behind.

"The general delivery of private information from house to house, theoretically at public expense and actually under government regulation, is supposed to have been unknown to the ancients of all periods; but I can state that one of the most effective, as well as one of the most interesting, systems of 'rural free delivery' ever conceived was in use for untold generations by the Indians on the north shore of Lake Superior, especially the Pillagers, and, I suppose (prior to the demoralization wrought by the advent of the Caucasian) by the Indians of other localities.

"Under the tribal law every person who travels over the trail must examine the contents of each postoffice that he passes for the purpose of forwarding any messages which are deliverable in the direction that he is pursuing. If the first person who passes the cache or postoffice in which I have deposited my letters knows my family or where they live, and expects to see them, he must take the message to them. If he intends to go only a portion of the way, he copies my message, leaves the original as he found it, and deposits his copy in the last postoffice that he passes on his journey toward my wigwam.

"If another person comes into the trail on the hither side of this copy, he must repeat the operation described, delivering the copy to my family or his own copy into the last cache on the road he travels in their direction.

"I asked the civil chief of the Pillagers how long his people had used this beautiful and effective free delivery system, and he replied, 'Always.'

"As the Pillagers claim to be the aboriginal natives of the soil where the remnant of their tribe is now located, and as the tepee of the present hereditary chief overlooks the graves of more than thirty generations of his ancestors, the term 'always' in this case must mean, at the lowest, many, many centuries."

THE IRISH PARLIAMENT

Something About the Old Building That May Yet Be Used Again.

The old Irish parliament house, which, according to rumor, may be occupied by a national council under a devolution scheme ere long, is one of the architectural glories of Dublin, says the Dundee Advertiser. In its exterior aspects it remains the same as it was when in the possession of the lords and commons of Ireland, but internally it has been knocked about to meet the requirements of the Bank of Ireland, into whose hands it passed after the act of union. The legislative hall of the commons, which once resounded with the eloquence of Grattan, Curran, Plunket and Flood, has been practically destroyed, and the present public banking chamber occupies part of its site. But the house of lords remains intact, just as it was at the time of the union, and is the most interesting and attractive part of the building to visitors. Curran, who was a determined opponent of the union, was one day passing the old parliament house in the company of a member who had voted for it. That member displayed signs of irritation and expressed a wish to see the building removed. "I am not surprised," said Curran, "there never yet was a murderer who was not afraid of a ghost."

The Irish house of commons sat for the last time on June 10, 1800. It was the duty of Lord Castlereagh to move the third reading of the union bill, and he discharged the duty with the utmost apparent equanimity. Other members were not so composed, and to conceal their emotion hurriedly left the room. The speaker, who hated the measure, rose to put the fateful question. He held up the bill for a moment in silence and looked, according to the senator's account of the scene, steadily around on the last agony of the expiring parliament. "He at length repeated in an emphatic tone: 'As many as are of opinion that this bill do pass say aye; the contrary say no.' The affirmative was languid but indisputable. Another momentary pause ensued. Again his lips seemed to decline their office. At length, with an eye averted from the object which he hated, he proclaimed with a subdued voice: 'The ayes have it.' The fatal sentence was now pronounced—for an instant he stood statue like; then indignantly, and with disgust, flung the bill upon the table and sank into his chair with an exhausted spirit."

WHEAT IN MEXICO.

Wheat is not generally regarded as an important crop of the southern republic, but such is nevertheless the case. Mr. Nathan E. White, of Houston, Tex., who has been for some time a resident of the province of Coahuila, and who was in this city recently for some hours on his way to the west, states that that province alone yielded a crop of about 1,000,000 bushels this year. The average was from ten to fifteen bushels to the acre.

"The quality compares very favorably with that of United States wheat," said Mr. White in answer to a question on the subject. The price ranges from $2.50 to $3 a bushel in Mexican currency, which is just about half the value of American. About one-third of the crop is grown by irrigation.

"Is the industry in the hands of natives or foreigners?"

"It is as yet entirely in the hands of Mexican ranchmen, but they have shown a truly enterprising spirit. Owing to the introduction of modern agricultural implements, the area is being increased each year. Large steam plows, cultivators, threshers, engines and every kind of improved farm machinery now aid in the preparation of a greater amount of virgin soil than was ever before undertaken on account of the crude facilities. The improved system of cultivation has proved to be so attractive that land owners are everywhere devoting their attention to this branch of agriculture with much more energy and activity. Consequently, the value of the land is rapidly advancing and the farming sections are becoming more thickly settled and prosperous."

In regard to the milling of wheat, Mr. White said that in his section of the country there were six modern roller mills operated by steam and nine running by water power. The flour produced is of excellent quality and finds a ready sale throughout the republic.—Montreal Star.

INDIAN WHO IS A PRIEST.

A Pottawatomie Who Spoke in the Tongue of His Fathers in Rome.

To be the first full blood Indian to become a Roman Catholic priest is the unusual distinction of the Rev. Father Albert Negahnquet, of Kansas, now conducting religious labors among his fellow racemen in Oklahoma and Indian Territory. So far as now known Father Negahnquet is the only living Roman Catholic priest who is a full blood Indian, says the Topeka Capital.

Father Negahnquet was born on the Pottawatomie reservation near St. Mary's, Kansas, in 1877. Soon afterward he was brought to Topeka by his parents and in the Church of the Assumption here he was baptized. He was the youngest of a family of ten children.

His parents and members of the family removed to Pottawatomie county, Oklahoma, where there are now many members of that tribe. In the southern part of that county the Catholics in an early day established a great community—a monastery, schools, and the like. The missionaries of that church naturally came and worked among the Indians near by. Father Negahnquet, as a boy, was sent to the school. He was an interesting child, readily tractable, and he applied himself to his studies. Mother Katherine Drexel, daughter of the millionaire Drexel, of Philadelphia, on the occasion of one of her periodical visits, took notice of this particular little Indian boy. She never forgot him, and when he became old enough she sent him to the large Indian school at Carlisle, Pa. Later he was transferred to the Catholic college at Washington, D. C., with the purpose in view of educating him for the priesthood.

He was the honor man at Washington, and from there he went to Rome. He studied philosophy and theology there in the Propaganda college, being one year in the College of the Pope. Before the departure from Rome of priests of this class it is customary for each in his mother tongue to give an address. It must have been strange when the young American Indian priest came forward and in the tongue of his fathers, the warlike Pottawatomies, spoke.

Then Father Negahnquet sailed away to Oklahoma Territory, and for a few weeks was the guest of his parents in their rude home. Soon afterward he sang the first mass given by a full blod Indian priest on American soil, in the big Catholic church at Oklahoma City, Okla. His consecration was by Bishop Theophile Meerschaert, of Guthrie, Okla. The bishop spoke proudly of the honor of consecrating the first Indian priest and of having him in that diocese.

Since coming back to America, three years ago, Father Negahnquet has labored faithfully among his people and those efforts have been well rewarded.

CARIBOU UPSET BOAT

Hunters' Struggle With the Animal in Rainy Lake.

Three Chicago hunters who have been after big game in the Rainy Lake district report having had a desperate encounter with a caribou in midlake, and in substantiation of their story exhibit the horns and hide of the big animal.

The men, Van Borden James, Carter Smith and John Charleston, have been in the Rainy Lake country since the big game season commenced. Last Monday James and Smith were in a boat on the lake when Charleston, who was on shore, sighted a big caribou, and attempted to get within rifle shot of it. The animal, however, headed for the lake and jumping in, started to swim toward an island. Charleston took a long shot at the swimming animal, but without other effect than to draw to it the attention of the two men in the boat.

Although the men were armed only with their hunting knives, having left their rifles at the camp, they thought they had a chance to get the caribou, hampered as it would be in the water. They set out in pursuit and soon overhauled the swimming caribou. Then an exciting and desperate encounter ensued. As the men would approach the caribou would turn upon the boat, tossing its great spreading antlers and threatening to overturn the little craft. It took great skill with the oars to avoid the attacks of the angry animal, and the men found it impossible to get close enough to use their knives. In one last desperate attempt they got the boat within a few feet of the caribou, which, however, turned suddenly and with a lunge of its horns overturned the boat, throwing its occupants into the icy waters of the lake.

They had succeeded, however, in turning the caribou back in the direction from which it came, and as it landed Charleston, who had witnessed the encounter from the shore, was able to get a shot which put an end to it. The men precipitated into the lake managed to right their overturned boat and come ashore.—Baudette correspondence St. Paul Pioneer Press.

A MECHANICAL SPY.

The introduction of modern detail cost-accumulating methods, which have done much to systematize and cheapen manufacture, has led to the development of an ingenious apparatus which indicates at a distance when any machine is stopped and the output of any machine for a given period. Moreover, the device makes an automatic record of all the facts so that at the close of the day the manager, by scanning their graphic records, can tell the exact output of any machine, and the length of time it was in operation, thereby enabling him to form an accurate judgment of the reliability of different operators. The beauty of this device is that the workman knows his every movement is being reported in the manager's office, and he is helpless to misrepresent conditions.

The recorder consists of a controlling clock, which revolves a series of time charts, one for each machine under observation. The hours and divisions of hours are printed vertically on the chart, in addition to which a series of pencils are rigidly fixed. The adjustment is such that the machine can be made to indicate every single revolution or any multiple desired, and each horizontal stroke of the pencil indicates one of these units, which is made opposite the corresponding hour and minute. When there are no strokes, it indicates that the machine is stopped.

By simple mechanical arangement an air piston is operated, which in turn establishes an electric connection, the impulse of which is transmitted to the recording machine controlling its mechanism. It is suggested that this device could be used to very great advantage in connection with the engines of steamships, as a graphic record is made of speed and the exact moment when any order is carried out.—The Manufacturer.

"COME 'LONG, CHRIS'MUS."

De sun shine bright
As a silver dollar,
But ef I wus ter see one
You would sho'ly hear me hollerl

Come 'long, Chris'mus,
An' my hat I'll lif'.
Fer de white man's dram
Is my Chris'mus gif'l

I gone down seekin'
Fer de ol' oak tree,
An' de ol' ha'nt tell me
Dat de worl' is fer me!

Oh, come 'long, Chris'mus,
Fo' de big do' slam,
I waitin' on de white man
An' de white man dram!

—Atanta Constitution.

GREATEST CROW ROOST

Bounty to Be Offered to Wipe Birds Out of Existence.

The fame of the Crows' Roost on Timber Hill may soon be history of the past. The county commissioners of Labette county are considering the plan of giving a bounty of five cents o ncrows' heads, and if such a scheme is carried through the slaughter will be great in the western part of the county. Hunters and sportsmen would be attracted in droves to that place because the most conservative estimates place the number of crows that nightly roost there at a figure not less than two or three hundred thousand.

Crows' Roost is a vicinity about thirteen miles south and a little west of Parsons, near Dennis. The land there is very rough and covered with scrub oak. Timber Hill is located there and the place is known best by that name. It is only a few miles to the Montgomery county line.

Every evening about sunset the sky around that place is black with the dense throngs of crows that have come for miles to roost in the hills. In every part of Labette and Montgomery counties these birds have been feeding on the crops of the farmers, and when night comes they wish to visit the others and gossip over the day's events. The noise in the evening that they make can be heard for miles. When morning comes the birds fly away to their daylight haunts again with more cawing, also making the sky black with their numbers.

It is a mystery how th efarmers living in the vicinity can raise any crops. Flocks of birds have been seen to settle on the fields until the earth was black, so thick did they cover it. Several visits like this to a growing field would be worse than the blights of grasshopper days.

The commissioners desire to help the farmers in getting rid of the nuisance. They are now conferring with the county commissioners of Montgomery county in the matter, because at least half of the crows belong to that county. Both counties may offer the bounties, if they find it expedient, and it will not be too great a drain on the county treasury.—Parsons correspondence Topeka State Journal.

Current Events.

Oklahoma wins its long fight for reduced freight rates.

Committee of American Medical society urges establishment of bureau of health by government.

Brother of Count Boni de Castellane arrives in New York and denies stories affecting his brother.

Standard Oil company advances the wages of all employes receiving less than $100 a month 10 per cent.

Ship subsidy bill seems near defeat; committee evenly divided, which means bill will not be reported.

Federation of Labor charges Methodist Book Concern with being unfair in its employment of printers.

Great Northern railway announces a new stock issue of $60,000,000, which will bring the total up to $210,000,000.

Managers of National Soldiers' home urge establishment of canteen, which they say will keep the veterans in quarters.

"Squirrel hunters," who saved Cincinnati from confederate invasion, gather with descendants to plan organization.

Evangelist mounts stage at La Crosse, Wis., when comic opera is ended and his revival services awe chorus girls.

Daniel C. Raum, the Peoria forger, confesses to squandering his wife's entire fortune of $80,000 in board of trade speculation.

Jane Addams and Mary McDowell, of Chicago, see Speaker Cannon and urge his favor toward the immigration and child labor bills.

Lord Tournor, M. P., arrives in New York wearing a shawl instead of an overcoat, and says the garment is the latest style in England.

Perry Belmont in opening convention of National Civic Federation gives warning that the desire to limit great fortunes may cripple the nation.

Governor-elect Hughes, of New York, announces that after he is inaugurated he will make a thorough personal investigation of all state departments.

Paul Morton calls a meeting of thirty life insurance presidents for the purpose of forming an association, which he hopes will cheapen insurance to the people.

Lives of children are wrecked by working in the mines in the soft coal fields, says Owen R. Lovejoy, assistant secretary of the national child labor committee.

Senator Dubois directly charges President Roosevelt with aiding the Mormon hierarchy in Idaho by sending Secretary Taft there to make a political speech.

Final steps preparatory to beginning legal action against Mayor Dunne to compel him to enforce the Sunday closing law in Chicago are taken by the Sunday Closing league.

Coroner's jury censures Illinois hospital for conditions permitting suicide of Fred Cejek and makes discovery that $1,000 said to have been in dead man's possession has disappeared.

Boy of 12 years and girl of 5 prevent a jail delivery at Lenoir, N. C., the boy throwing away the keys to the jail when the prisoners attempt to get them, while the girl gives the alarm.

W. K. Vanderbilt, while speeding his big racing automobile along the shore of Lake Success, Long Island, is hurled into the ice-coated lake by the snapping of the front axle of the machine.

Andrew Carnegie, speaking before the National Civic Federation in New York, says the major part of the estates of enormously wealthy men should go to the state at the death of the owners of the fortunes.

President Roosevelt's stand on the Japanese school controversy in San Francisco is attacked by Senator Bayner, who defends state rights and declares the President seeks to be omnipotent.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, is addressing the National Civic Federation, attacks government by injunction and declares the workingman has lost all confidence in the federal judiciary.

Mexican government makes known the details of its plan to take over all the important railroads in the republic and operate them through a $225,000,000 state controlled company, in which American bankers are to be largely interested.

Charles R. Cooper, a veteran of the civil war and author of a chronological history of that conflict, is on trial in Milwaukee on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, claiming he is an official commissioner for New Zealand.

Operating officials of railroads are bitterly opposing the demand of the Br

WATCHES

The Blade's Revised List for 1906-7—18 and 16 Sizes.

During the past season we have had so many inquiries from our readers for prices on 16 size watches, that we have included them in our list this season.

The 16 size watch is now the popular size for men and boys, being very much lighter in weight, smaller in size, and thinner than the 18 size.

With the exception of the 3-O size watches, which are Dueber-Hampden movements, we shall handle this season only Waltham and Elgin movements. The reputation and reliability of these movements are so well known to our readers that they need no further recommendation from us.

The cases used in our watches this season are the very best grade of 25-year and 20-year gold filled cases on the market. We make no extra charge this season for hand engraved cases in the 25-year grade.

We guarantee everything we offer you to be just exactly as represented,

And you will find our prices lower than you can purchase the same quality for elsewhere.

The Waltham and Elgin watches are all stem wind and stem set. The 3-O size Dueber-Hampden watches are stem wind and lever set. The 3-O size watches are the smallest ladies' watches made. They are very dainty and may be worn as chatelaines.

All Watches are sent by registered mail.

We can supply any movement made by the Waltham or Elgin companies, and will be pleased to quote prices.

This offer is intended only for Blade subscribers. We desire to give our subscribers the advantage of the best quality of everything at the very lowest price.

MOVEMENTS.

Nickel—Fifteen jewels (settings); quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Nickel—Seven jewels; quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval steel regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Men's Watches

No. 100—18 size, 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $14.00

No. 101—18 size, 25-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $11.50

No. 102—16 size, 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $15.00

No. 103—16 size, 25-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $12.25

No. 104—18 size, 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $15.50

No. 105—18 size, 25-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $12.50

No. 106—16 size, 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $17.00

No. 107—16 size, 25-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $14.50

No. 108—18 size, 20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.50

No. 109—18 size, 20-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $9.75

No. 110—16 size, 20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.75

No. 111—16 size, 20-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $10.00

No. 112—18 size, 20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $13.50

No. 113—18 size, 20-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $10.50

No. 114—16 size, 20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $15.00

No. 115—16 size, 20-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $12.50

Nickel Silver Cases

No. 116—18 size, 7-jeweled works $5.50

No. 117—16 size, 7-jeweled works $6.75

No. 118—18 size, 15-jeweled works $6.00

No. 119—16 size, 15-jeweled works $8.75

Ladies' 6 Size

No. 120—25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.50

No. 121—25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $13.50

No. 122—20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $11.00

No. 123—20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $12.25

Ladies' O Size

No. 124—25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $14.00

No. 125—25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $17.50

No. 126—20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $13.00

No. 127—20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $16.50

Ladies' 3-O Size

No. 128—"The 400" 25-year hunting case, 17-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $18.50

No. 129—"The Diadem," 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $15.00

No. 130—"Molly Stark," 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $13.75

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The Hicks Almanac

FOR 1907

Be Prepared for All Storms, Blizzards, Drouths, Tornadoes and Great Extremes of Temperature by Having a Hicks Almanac for 1907.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac now has an international reputation. For more than 13 years all storms, blizzards, drouths, tornadoes, floods and great extremes of temperature have been foretold by Professor Hicks, and close observers declare that more than 95 per cent of his predictions have been verified. He foretold the great Galveston storm of Sept. 8, 1900, in his 1900 Almanac, issued in the fall of 1899; he foretold the great volcanic eruption of Mont Pelee, Martinique, of May 8, 1902, in his 1902 Almanac, issued in the fall of 1901; he foretold the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the series of earthquakes that culminated in the disaster at San Francisco in April, 1906. Each of these great events was foretold from six months to nine month before it occurred. It will foretell every storm, cold wave, hot wave, tornado or blizzard which will come in 1907. It is a neatly printed book in stiff paper covers, and will contain a large number of beautiful half-tone engravings.

Our price for the Almanac..... 25c
Almanac and Weekly Blade 1 year.. 60c

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We have published a series of sixteen cards, illustrating views of interest on the historic Maumee river, and also a few interesting streets of Toledo. A set of sixten cards will be mailed to any address on receipt of seven cents in postage stamps. Address

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PARIS PATTERNS.

The cut paper patterns now offered to our readers are furnished by the Paris Modes Co., of New York, and are the best, latest and most perfect patterns offered by any newspaper using cut paper patterns.

These patterns provide for the allowance of all seams; are easy, simple and practical to use, and perfect in fit. If the correct size is selected, a garment may be cut and made to fit perfectly without any alteration.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered.

Please do NOT send stamps. Inclose a silver dime wrapped in tissue paper. Once more, do NOT send stamps. They stick together, and it is difficult to dispose of them, unless at a discount.

Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and the bust measure also.

Address as follows, including price of pattern ordered. Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Notice that the price, 10 cents, is for a SINGLE pattern. Many of these show TWO patterns in an illustration. In such cases, either will be sent on receipt of 10 cents, coin, or both on receipt of two silver dimes.

Ladies' Square-Yoke Nightgown—Paris Pattern No. 1628—All Seams Allowed.

The square-yoke nightgown is always a popular model and is here shown in the newest fashioning. The yoke may show pretty handwork or it may be made of fancy tucking, all-over lace or embroidery or of clustered tucks and rows of insertion. The long bishop sleeves are up-to-date in size and shape. The neck may be finished with a little frill or with a pretty turn-over collar. Longcloth, cambric, nainsook and muslin are popular

materials for nightgowns. This model is also attractive for French, Scotch, outing and other flannels.

When of striped flannel, the yoke is often made of plain flannel the color of the stripe. Buttonhole stitched scallops make a pretty edge decoration for the collar and wristbands.

The pattern is in 7 sizes—32 to 44 inches, bust measure. For 36 bust, the gown needs 9¾ yards of material 27 inches wide, or 7¼ yards 36 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Girls' Plaited Dress With Round Yoke Paris Pattern No. 1635.—All Seams Allowed.

A smart little frock that is also exceedingly simple to make is here portrayed developed in mohair serge, with tucking for the deep round yoke and silk for the castellated little bertha that follow the lower edge of the yoke in a line that gives modish, long sloping shoulders. Pretty metal buttons add to the decorative effect of the bertha. The dress is box-

plaited, the plaits being stitched as far down as the belt and pressed well but falling free in the skirt. The belt is closed with a frame buckle at the front and is slipped through strap-loops at the under-arm seams, where an under box-plait adds to the width and uniformly plaited effect of the skirt.

These little frocks may be made quite dressy and dainty for special wear or developed in serviceable materials for school or general wear. Plaid or checked and plain goods make very effective combinations for school dresses.

The pattern is in 4 sizes—6 to 12 years. For a girl of 10 years, the dress requires 5⅛ yards of goods 27 inches wide, or 4½ yards 36 inches wide, or 3½ yards 44 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Draped Waist, With Deep Yoke, High or Low Neck, Elbow Sleeves and Body Lining.—Paris Pattern No. 1656.—All Seams Allowed.

A pretty novelty in waists is here illustrated developed in messaline and all-over lace. It is built on a carefully fitted boned lining and fits down on the skirt like a short basque, requiring neither belt or girdle. The front deepens to a point at the center but the back just laps over the skirt belt. A deep yoke forms the upper part, and the lower part is laid in upturning plaits at the under-arm seams and drawn with soft

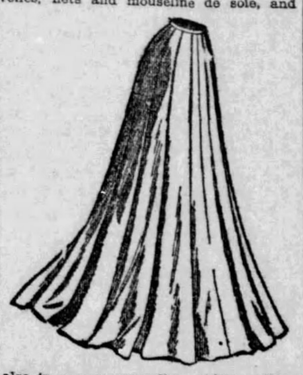
drooping folds about the figure by shirrings at the center of the front and back. The waist may be made with high or low neck, as preferred. Tissues, nets and sheer goods of all sorts, also soft silks and dress goods are available for these waists, which may show decidedly individual effects in trimming.

The pattern is in 6 sizes—32 to 42 inches bust measure. For 36 bust, the waist will need 4¼ yards of material 20 inches wide, or 2¾ yards 36 inches wide, or 2½ yards 42 inches wide, or 1¾ yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Seven-Gored Skirt—Box Plaited at Top and in Sweep or Round Length—Paris Pattern No. 1654—All Seams Allowed.

A handsome skirt for day or evening wear is here illustrated made of pastel-blue broadcloth. It is in seven gores, the seams being concealed under small box-plaits that are stitched underneath to some distance below the hips, pressed well to retain the smooth, close adjustment so necessary to a smart effect and then allowed to flare in soft voluminous folds toward the foot. The skirt may be in medium sweep or in round length, as preferred. In sheer goods such as silk voiles, nets and mousseline de sole, and



also in crepes, messaline, chiffon velvet, and silks and numerous novelty goods the skirt is exceedingly beautiful for evening wear with waists to match. It will also make up stylishly in all sorts of goods for street wear. Sometimes these skirts are trimmed at the foot, but the long straight lines are smartest.

The pattern is in 6 sizes—22 to 32 inches, waist measure. For 26 waist, the skirt needs 11¾ yards of goods 20 inches wide, or 6¾ yards 36 inches wide, or 5¾ yards 42 inches wide, or 4½ yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Semi-Fitting Jacket, With Diagonal Closing, Long or Three-Quarter Length Sleeves and With or Without Triple Cape—Paris Pattern No. 1642—All Seams Allowed.

This is a dressy style of jacket for suit or independent wear and is exceedingly smart looking. At the back and sides it extends only a little below the waistline, but deepens to points at the front edges, giving the long straight-front lines considered so smart. Long seams to the shoulders, front and back, curve the jacket gracefully to the figure, and little underfolded plaits at the lower part of the seams make for a novel effect in the skirt.

A triple shoulder cape with its front and back sections strapped together on the shoulders give decided individuality to the jacket and its pretty festoon-like curves are exceedingly chic.

The pattern is in 6 sizes—32 to 42 inches, bust measure. For 36 bust, the jacket will need 5 yards of material 27 inches wide, or 3¼ yards 36 inches wide, or 2¼ yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Jumper or Guimpe Waist, Slipped on Over the Head—Paris Pattern No. 1640—All Seams Allowed.

The jumper waist is exceedingly popular in all sorts of pretty stuffs and usually matches special skirts. It slips on over the head and is worn with guimpes made with or without sleeves. The illustration shows its prettiest model, with elbow puff sleeves gathered to wide arm-bands. The

low square neck is followed by a row of velvet ribbon that is trimmed in a fanciful way at the corners and the arm-bands are trimmed to match. Three spaced tucks on each shoulder are decorative and give breadth and pretty fulness that is adjusted at the belt to suit the figure. Across the center, the front is smooth and suggests possibilities for individual effects in decoration.

The skirt is adjusted over the bottom of the jumper just as over a shirt waist and any becoming style or belt or girdle is worn.

The pattern is in 7 sizes—32 to 44 inches, bust measure. For 36 bust, the jumper will need 3½ yards of material 20 inches wide, or 2 yards 36 inches wide, or 1⅞ yards 42 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

Ladies' Blouse Jacket—With Vest and Long or Three-Quarter Length Sleeves and With or Without Peplum. Paris Pattern No. 1634—All Seams Allowed.

The blouse jacket is stunning on many figures and is frequently very elaborately trimmed. The newest model is here shown made of mulberry broadcloth, with black velvet for the fancifully shaped flat collar and roll-back cuffs and black soutache

braid arranged in an effective design on the fronts. The lines are exceedingly graceful, the front showing the smart dip at the center in contrast to the short-waist effect at the back. A narrow vest, that may be made of a strip of any pretty trimming or decorative goods or of the cloth all-over braided is seen between the open fronts and closes invisibly all the way down the center. A circular peplum is joined to the belt, but it need not be used, if the jacket is preferred without it. These jackets are made up in suits and for independent wear.

The pattern is in 6 sizes—32 to 42 inches, bust measure. For 36 bust, the jacket requires 4½ yards of material 20 inches wide, or 2¼ yards 36 inches wide, or 2¼ yards 42 inches wide, or 1¾ yards 54 inches wide.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

COAL FAMINE IS SERIOUS

North Dakota Towns Need Fuel Very Badly.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 15.—With the cold wave signal flying the coal shortage in the northwest becomes not only a cause of severe suffering, but an absolute menace to human life.

Glenburn, N. D., is seriously considering an appeal to the governors of North Dakota and Minnesota to employ the state militia in forcing the moving of coal trains. Eveleth, Minn., faces darkness and suffering through deprivation of coal, and apprehensive reports have come from numerous other places. The Glenburn situation is summed up in a statement from the Glenburn Commercial club as follows:

"The dealers wire us that the situation is entirely up to the railroads, as shippers are unable to obtain cars to load with coal. We will wire Governor Sarles requesting him to take up the matter with Governor Johnson, of Minnesota, and if necessary call out the militia of the two states to run coal trains.

"The situation all through this section is desperate, and with the liability of blizzards at any time many may freeze to death if fuel is not available soon. Farmers are already coming to town with reports of burning sheds and other outhouses for fuel. We have notified the farmers that if the worst comes they can bring their families and bedding and camp in our new four-room brick school house. We have sufficient coal to heat the building for three months at least, and it will go further in this way than it would if distributed among those who are out of coal, as it would not make a bushel each.

"We will also wire our senators at Washington asking their interest with the federal government. We cannot put our words strong enough to convey to you the importance of getting railroads to haul special trains of coal into the section that is suffering. Lignite is unavailable as the same handicap is met there. We telephoned the Burlington mines and asked if they could not let us have five cars if we sent men there to load them. They replied that they were sixty cars or more back in orders and could not obtain cars to load. Farmers cannot go to the mines and haul more than 1,000 or 1,500 pounds, as roads are almost impassable."

WATCH GERMAN CRISIS

British Papers Keenly Interested In the Situation.

London, Dec. 14.—The German crisis attracts unusual attention in the British press this morning, less as a revolt of the reichstag against the colonial policy of the empire than as the culmination of long dissatisfaction with the extreme bureaucratic character of the system of government, and a popular demand for ministers responsible to the people and the peoples' representatives. Interest is considered to pivot largely upon the strength and attitude of the Socialist party. The election will be watched in England with keenest interest, it being recognized that as a means of securing a government majority an appeal may be made to the idea of a spirited foreign policy. It is considered, furthermore, that such a development might cause some uneasiness in Europe as endangering peace.

ENORMOUS COPPER DEAL

Consolidation of Companies With $50,000,000 Stock.

New York, Dec. 15.—The organization of a new $50,000,000 company to be known as the Greene-Cananea Copper company to take over the control of the Greene Consolidated Copper company and the Cananea Central Copper company was announced today by William C. Greene.

Mr. Greene gave out the following statement:

"It is announced by parties interested that a deal has been completed by which Messrs. Thomas F. Cole and John D. Ryan and their associates have acquired heavy interests in the Greene Consolidated Copper company. Messrs. Cole and Ryan and Colonel Greene have already large interests in the Cananea Central Copper company, and these two companies, controlling as they do practically the entire camp of Cananea, will be merged into a new company, to be known as the Greene-Cananea Copper company. It is stated that the new company will issue $50,000,000 of stock and will exchange its stock for Greene Consolidated on the basis of $30,000,000 for the property, and for the stock of the Cananea Central on the basis of $20,000,000 for the property. Ample cash has been provided for this plan for enlargement of plant and development of property. No stock will be offered to the public.

"Messrs. Cole, Ryan and Greene will leave shortly for Mexico to inspect the properties, and lay out a plan for equipment and development.

"The company will be incorporated under the laws of Minnesota, with nine directors who will represent all the large interests concerned.

"Mr. Cole will be its president and Colonel Greene its vice president."

KICK ON MEAT PRICES

German Reichstag Drawn Into Fevered Discussion.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—The reichstag yesterday discussed interpellations of the government on the meat scarcity in Germany, introduced by the Radicals and Socialists. The chancellor was asked whether the government was willing to improve the situation by opening the frontiers to the importation of cattle and by the abolition of or reduction in the duties on animal foods. Herr Wiemer, Radical, cited the wholesale price of meat in Germany as being 22½ cents a pound, while in Belgium it was 14 cents, in Spain 13½ cents, in France 13 cents, in England 12½ cents, in the United States 13 cents and in Russia 9½ cents. He added that the various petitions and complaints of the commercial chambers and town councils were the best argument that the whole population felt the meat scarcity. The speaker further asserted that the meat consumption which was over 40 pounds per head in Germany in 1904, was only a little over 36 pounds per head in 1906, while the consumption of horse and dog flesh had increased considerably.

Herr Wiemer also said that he had been informed that the German naval authorities had asked the government for permission to order foreign canned meat, in case of mobilization if the quantity of Germany meat was insufficient.

GENERAL NOGI INJURED

Hero of Port Arthur Thrown From His Horse.

Tokio, Dec. 14.—General Nogi, the Japanese commander who captured Port Arthur, was thrown from his horse today while returning home from the palace. He fell on his head and became unconscious. His condition arouses apprehension.

KING OSCAR BETTER.

Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 17.—King Oscar continues to improve, his general condition this morning being noticeably better. His recovery, however, is expected to be slow.

The following is the text of the bulletin issued today by his majesty's attending physicians:

"The king passed a good, quiet night. His temperature is 99.1., the action of the heart is stronger and the mucus in the trachea has not increased."

BABY'S TORTURING HUMOR.

Ears Looked as If They Would Drop Off—Face Mass of Sores—Cured by Cuticura in Two Weeks for 75c.

"I feel it my duty to parents of other poor suffering babies to tell you what Cuticura has done for my little daughter. She broke out all over her body with a humor, and we used everything recommended, but without results. I called in three doctors; they all claimed they could help her, but she continued to grow worse. Her body was a mass of sores, and her little face was being eaten away; her ears looked as if they would drop off. Neighbors advised me to get Cuticura Soap and Ointment, and before I had used half of the cake of Soap and box of Ointment the sore had all healed, and my little one's face and body were as clear as a new-born babe's. I would not be without it again if it cost five dollars, instead of seventy-five cents. Mrs. George J. Steese, 701 Coburn St., Akron, Ohio."

WAR AGAINST RELIGION

Vatican Defines the Position of the Church.

Rome, Dec. 15.—The pope and the papal secretary of state, Cardinal Merry Del Val, have refused all requests to grant interviews for publication on the Franco-Vatican situation, but the following statement is authorized by the vatican:

"The situation may be summarized as follows:

"The concordat, the most solemn bilateral contract, has not yet been denounced by the French government, which wishes to establish a new legal standing for the church in France. The government did not agree with the holy see on this subject and repeatedly and openly showed hostility towards the head of the church. Violence may prevail for a time, but those who are suffering from this state of oppression preserve all their rights and all their claims. The explosion of joy among the Masonic and demagogic societies as a result of the persecution on the part of the government shows that the war is against the church and religion.

"Notwithstanding the bills passed and regulations adopted, France at the present time has no law granting religious liberty to those who do not comply with the law providing for the separation of the church and state.

"The one good point in the circular issued recently by the French minister of public worship, M. Briand, is his confession that it is impossible to apply to cultural associations the laws of 1881 and 1901, which were adopted for the regulation of other kinds of associations' meetings. Therefore, what is needed is a real law providing for real liberty, instead of arbitrary ministerial circulars. The loyalty and good will of the holy see under similar circumstances was shown in Brazil. There there was a monarchy and a concordat, both of which the Republicans suppressed, and proclaimed their separation from the holy see, under certain reserves. Later the Brazilian republic came to an understanding with the vatican and a papal nuncio was accredited to Rio Janeiro, while a Brazilian minister was accredited to the vatican.

"The search of the Nunciature at Paris and the expulsion from France of Mgr. Montagnini, secretary of the Nunciature, were steps taken with the object of making the world believe the false statements circulated later, and which were said to have originated in the discovery of documents seized at the nunciature, such as the report that some of the French episcopacy and clergy were ready to make applications to hold religious meetings. There is no truth in the statement. The holy see is not opposed to the making of applications under the law, but takes exception to the whole spirit of the circular issued by Minister of Public Worship Briand."

HOLDS STRIKES LEGAL

Conspiracy to Strike Also Lawful, Says Sanborn.

Madison, Wis., Dec. 13.—"The right to strike for any cause or no cause is clearly and fully sustained by authority. Even a conspiracy to strike, followed by legal damage, is not unlawful if formed to better labor conditions."

This is an extract from the decision of Judge A. L. Sanborn, of the United States district court which was handed down yesterday in the case of the Allis-Chalmers company against the iron molders' union of Milwaukee.

It is probably one of the first opinions wherein a conspiracy under certain conditions is sanctioned as lawful. The opinion says:

"The right of workingmen to combine in trade unions in order to secure the economic advancement of their members is also unquestioned and such unions are generally regarded as beneficial institutions in bettering the conditions of labor and the relations between employer and employes. Whether a threat to strike or bring about a strike were made by a number of persons acting in concert is lawful, is an entirely different question. The conclusion to be drawn is that the combination of the defendants' union, their members and the Defendant O'Leary to strike, and further to enforce the strike and if possible, to bring the employers to terms, was not unlawful because grounded on just cause or excuse, being of economic advancement of the labor unions."

MOURNED FOR EACH OTHER

Wife Had Buried Body She Believed Her Husband.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 13.—A husband and wife, separated since the San Francisco earthquake and each until a few days ago believing the other dead, will be reunited as soon as a train now bearing Mrs. Hattie Politz westward can reach Stockton, California.

Last summer Mrs. Politz brought from California to Oshkosh, Wis., the charred body of a man and buried it in Riverside cemetery in the belief that the body was that of her husband. Recently she learned that her husband was living on a ranch in California. A long distance telephone conversation soon confirmed the fact and Mrs. Politz at once prepared to leave for Stockton. The joy of the reunion will be marred by a touch of sadness, for one of their children has been killed, accidentally, since the husband and wife were separated and another child, born since then did not live. Of these things, as well as of the whereabouts of his wife, Politz was in ignorance. He mourned his entire family as dead. The family lived in an apartment house in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake and in the awful days following the husband and wife became separated from each other.

MAGOON ISSUES DECREES

Money to Be Spent for Sanitation in Cuban Cities.

Havana, Dec. 15.—Governor Magoon has issued a decree directing all rural guardsmen to be especially vigilant in arresting all persons bearing arms without license. Another gubernatorial decree provides for the expenditure of $326,000 for sanitation in various towns throughout the island. This step is taken in accordance with recommendations made by the board of sanitation. The amount mentioned was appropriated by congress last July, but never expended.

MASS HEARD UNDER BAN

Crowds of People Thronged the Paris Churches.

Paris, Dec. 13.—There was an impressive response this morning to the clergy's appeal to their parishioners to attend the first masses celebrated outside of the pale of the law. A correspondent of the Associated Press visited a dozen churches, including Notre Dame Des Victoires, St. Germain D'Auxerrois, where the signal for the St. Bartholomew massacre was given; St. Roch, the Madelaine and St. Augustin. Everywhere it was the same story. The front gates of the churches were closed, but the Catholics by the gray light of dawn were streaming through the side portals. The interiors of the buildings were well filled; in several places there was music, but nowhere was there the slightest attempt to interfere with the services or create a disturbance. There were three policemen stationed outside the portico of the churches to prevent any possible disorder, while police officers in plain clothes were on duty inside to note the infractions of the law, taking the names of the officiating priests and approximating the number of those present with the object of making reports to the justices of police. Formal charges were entered wherever mass was celebrated, except at the churches of St. Jean L'Evangile and St. Blaise De Charonne at Pere la Chaise whose parishioners, following the example of the first mentioned church, made the called-for application yesterday evening to hold services under the law of 1881. The vicar of St. Blaise De Charonnes, when induced by his parishioners to take the step, said:

"Whatever the consequences I regret nothing. I am a Frenchman above everything."

Early dispatches from the departments say that wherever mass was celebrated charges were drawn up and summonses issued. At Chalons the Abbe Renaudin claimed that the church bells were not rung and that no person was invited to mass and that therefore the assemblage had not the character of a public meeting, whereupon he was compelled by a police officer to inscribe his protest upon the summons. At the final meeting last night of the diocesan council here it was decided that neither the ecclesiastical residences nor the seminaries should be abandoned except before a show of force. It is officially stated that the letters of Mgr. Montagnini, the expelled secretary of the papal nunciature here, show that the majority of the French bishops favored observance of the law of 1881 and bowed with reluctance to the papal decree. The official statement adds that the inviolability of the diplomatic correspondence of the nunciature was scrupulously respected before the rupture between the vatican and France.

VATICAN IS DEPRESSED

Believed That France Will Not Recede From Her Attitude.

Rome, Dec. 13.—Immediately after his arrival here today Mgr. Montagnini, the expelled secretary of the papal nunciature at Paris, went to the vatican and conferred with Papal Secretary of State Merry Del Val and Mgr. Della Chiesa and Mgr. Gasparri, the assistant secretaries, and made them a long report on the situation in France, especially in regard to the documents seized at the Paris nunciature, several hundreds of which dealt entirely with the Franco-Vatican conflict and will be especially interesting to the French government as showing, it is asserted here, the difference of opinion among the members of the French Episcopacy. The report of Mgr. Montagnini will be used for a protest to the foreign powers against the action of the French government. Immediately after his conference with Cardinal Merry Del Val, Mgr. Montagnini went to the pope, who asked for minute details of the secretary's expulsion and of the documents seized. Mgr. Montagnini expressed the distress which he felt as a result of his expulsion, and presented to the pontiff a rather dark picture of the situation, saying he believed the present French government will not be induced to change the attitude which it has assumed towards the vatican.

MONTANA IS LAUNCHED

New Armored Cruiser Slides From the Ways.

Newport News, Va., Dec. 15.—The United States armored cruiser Montana was successfully launched at the Newport News shipyard today in the presence of a large number of people. The vessel was christened by Miss Minnie Conrad, daughter of W. G. Conrad, of Montana. Governor Toole, of that state, was represented by Martin Maginnis, former territorial delegate in congress. Senator Carter and Representative Dixon also were present. The navy was not officially represented. After the launching the sponsors' party was entertained at breakfast. The Montana is about 58 per cent completed and is a sister ship to the North Carolina, launched here October 6. Her contract calls for a speed of 22 knots. The Montana is the last warship on the stocks here.

BROWN DIES OF WOUND

He Succumbed to Wounds of Gun Shot.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Former United States Senator Arthur Brown, of Utah, who was shot in his apartments at the Hotel Raleigh, Saturday afternoon, by Mrs. Anna M. Bradley, of Salt Lake City, died at 12:05 o'clock this morning at the emergency hospital.

Mrs. Bradley will be arraigned in police court on the charge of murder. Her attorneys will set up the defense that she was justified under the "unwritten law" in shooting Brown.

Mrs. Bradley was at once informed of Senator Brown's death. She was asleep when the message reached the house of detention shortly after midnight. She received it without comment.

Mr. Brown came to the senate in 1896, when Utah was admitted to the Union. He served about fifteen months. He had been prominent as a criminal lawyer in his early career in Utah, but in later years had been giving his attention to mining cases. It was to appear as counsel before the supreme court of the United States on Monday in a mining case that he came to Washington, where he was followed by Mrs. Bradley, who, it is said, learned of his appointment to meet Mrs. Adams in New York, after he had appeared before the supreme court. She left for Washington immediately and registered at the Hotel Raleigh as "Mrs. Anna Brown," and was assigned to a room near Senator Brown's apartments. According to a statement made by Senator Brown shortly after he was taken to the hospital, he found Mrs. Bradley in his room going through his private papers. She demanded that he marry her at once, and when he refused she fired the shot which has proved fatal. There was no eye-witness to the tragedy.

Mrs. Anna C. Adams, mother of Maude Adams, the actress, was notified of Senator Brown's death by Dr. White. She will arrive in Washington today, and will accompany the body to Salt Lake City. Mrs. Adams' name has been brought into the case in connection with letters which she wrote Brown, which were found in the possession of Mrs. Bradley when she was arrested. The former senator's son says Mrs. Adams has long been a special friend of the family.

GETS A BETTER JOB.

Washington, Dec. 17.—It is understood that Frank Steinhardt, who has been consul general in Cuba since 1903, is about to relinquish that office to become the resident agent in Cuba of a large New York financial concern. Mr. Steinhardt's present salary is $3,000 per annum, and it is said that in his new capacity he will receive $25,000. He will remain in office until early next year at the earnest request of Governor Magoon.

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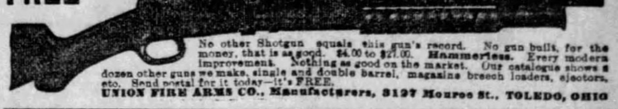

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COMET The coming game. Catchy as fire. Enthusiasm everywhere. Comet parties the rage. Gold-edged, ivory-finished. 50c postpaid. Comet Card Co., Angola, Ind.

BEAUTIFUL YOUNG LADY, worth $10,000 cash, will also inherit Ten Thousand more, wishes to meet young or middle aged man with view to matrimony. (Poverty no objection.) Address Miss Hart, Dept. 862, 54 Wabash, Chicago.

YOUNG MAN, 28 years, would like to meet Lady, with view to matrimony, is worth over $35,000 in real estate, will inherit $10,000. No objection poor maiden or widow. Address Mr. H., Room 819, Ceylon Bldg., Chicago.

WANTED Good Man in each county to represent and advertise Dayspring Hardware Department, put out samples, etc. Salary $21.00 weekly. Expense money advanced. Dept. W 4, The Columbia House, Chicago.

AGENTS Magnificent Dollar Fruit Dish FREE with every Box of Soap. Beats anything ever heard of. BIG MONEY for Canvassers. Branch office and crew Managers. Write for Mammoth Circular. Wonderful NEW offer. Parker Chemical Co., Chicago.

REBEL LEADER A SUICIDE

Head of Ecuador Revolutionists Shoots Himself.

Guayaquil, Ecuador, Dec. 15.—When General Paez and the government troops were entering Cuenca yesterday with the rebels captured at the battle of Ayancay, a mob tried to rescue the prisoners, whereupon the soldiers fired and dispersed the mob. As the troops fired, Col. Vega, the rebel leader, who was among those captured at Ayancay, drew a revolver and killed himself.

The conservatives say that Vega was assassinated by the government troops.

The death of Col. Vega, who was a prominent figure in the conservative party, is deeply lamented. In spite of reports to the contrary, the revolution against the government is not crushed. Dispatches received here last night announced that rebel bands had appeared in the province of Oro and had occupied the towns of Santa Rosa, Machala and Pasaje.

It is further asserted that Col. Larrea, who was secretary for war in President Garcia's administration, has landed in the province of Oro at the head of a new rebel band and has occupied Tumber and Pera.

The authorities here hurriedly organized an expedition to attack the rebels. This force left Guayaquil for Machala late Thursday night on board the Ecuadorian cruiser Cotopal. The troops, which were under the command of Col. Manuel Serrano, numbered 400 men and took with them field guns and a large quantity of ammunition. As this dispatch is filed it is learned that bands of rebels have appeared between Lataculga and Ambatobo.

GIBBONS FOR FAIR PLAY

Says Americans Do Not Understand Situation.

Baltimore, Dec. 14.—"The American public does not understand the present crisis in France," said Cardinal Gibbons, asked last evening for his opinion on the French situation. He continued, explaining the crisis in France in these words:

"I am getting to be an old man now, and I think I know my countrymen. They love fair play; they love liberty; they love to see humane dealings of man with man. And the late years have shown how cordially they hate injustice, tyranny and inhumanity. And yet France has treated her noblest citizens with injustice and inhumanity, and America, which has sympathy for the oppressed of all nations, has raised no protest nor uttered a word of sympathy.

"But Americans have not had these things fairly put before them. I am weighing my words and I say with deliberate conviction that the leaders of the present French government are actuated by nothing less than hatred of religion. We have no spirit akin to theirs in this country.

"In France the Jacobin party is not dead. Their spirit is as living today as it was in the last decade of the eighteenth century. They hate God, they hate Christ, they hate his religion as much as ever their fathers hated them.

"The present minister of public worship, the most strenuous advocate of the law of separation, M. Briand, said in an address to school children: 'The time has come to root up from the minds of French children the ancient faith which has served its purpose and replace it with the light of free thought; it is time to get rid of the Christian idea. We have hunted Jesus Christ out of the army, the navy, the schools, the hospitals, insane and orphan asylums and law courts, and now we must hunt him out of the state altogether.'

"It is not separation alone that the holy father is repudiating, but tyranny in the guise of separation. Hence it was imperative upon him to resist. For the past twenty years and more the policy of the holy see and the French hierarchy has been one of patience and conciliation. It was with the deepest regret and only after all conciliatory measures had failed, that the pontiff at length found himself driven to a course of passive resistance.

"For myself I have too much confidence in the goodness of the French clergy, in their high mindedness, their zeal, their courage, their readiness to suffer and to sacrifice themselves, to believe that they will tamely allow religion to be strangled in France, and I have too much confidence in the French nation to believe now that they can see and realize the meaning of the measures taken and the animus of those behind them, that the natural feelings of justice and humanity and the love of liberty will not arise in their hearts and held them to reject the leaders who, in seeking to destroy religion, are bringing disgrace upon the name of France; and I have too much confidence in God and His protection of the church not to feel encouraged to look for a renewal of faith and religion in France."

ASKS CHUNK OF CHICAGO

Cambridge Man Files Suits Involving $2,500,000.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—In the federal circuit court here Sidney Smith, of Cambridge, Mass., filed fourteen suits yesterday for writs of ejectment on land here worth $2,500,000. The city of Chicago and four thousand other defendants are named in the suits. The land named is almost the entire territory south of Thirty-fifth street to Thirty-ninth street, between Grand Boulevard and Lake Michigan. According to Smith the original grant of the land never appeared on record, the man obtaining the grant having died before the instrument was registered. Smith claims to have purchased the claims of the heirs of the grantee.

COMMENDS THE PRESIDENT

Philippine Veterans Approve of Discharge of Negroes.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 14.—Camp Louis A. Craig, Army of the Philippines, last night endorsed President Roosevelt's order discharging without honor the negro troops of the Twenty-fifth infantry. Resolutions adopted commended the action of the President in his "fearless and commendable st

CHRISTMAS in the HOUSEHOLD.

KEYNOTES OF HARMONY

WEDNESDAY.
God holds the key of all unknown,
And I am glad;
If other hands should hold the key,
Or if He trusted it to me,
I might be sad.

THURSDAY.
The sweetest lives are those to duty wed,
Whose deeds both great and small
Are close-knit strands of an unbroken thread,
Where love ennobles all.

FRIDAY.
Ah! they know not heart
Of man or woman, who declare
That love needs time to love and dare.
His altars wait—not day nor name,
Only the touch of sacred flame.

SATURDAY.
Singing in the morning, singing through the day,
Singing at the hearthstone, singing all the way,
Singing cheers the lonely, singing, the sad,
Singing makes us gentle, singing makes us glad.

SUNDAY.
Do you think you dwell in darkness and gloom?
You dwell in a Realm of Light.
Light ever bright as the sun at noon,
And ne'er giving way to night.
The King of the Realm is a King most fair,
His power of infinite sway,
His love and His bounty beyond compare,
He nothing withholds if you pray.

MONDAY.
For when the power of imparting joy
Is equal to the will, the human soul
Requires no other heaven.

TUESDAY.
But what is life? Drops make the sea;
And petty cares and small events,
Small causes and small consequents,
Make up the sun for you and me;
Then, oh, for strength to meet the stings
That arm the points of little things!

Christmas Thoughts and Memories

Emily S. Bouton.

Christmas bells are ringing once again! It seems but yesterday since last they filled the air with their music of cheerful, loving, giving and receiving, the one as important as the other. Wondrously short is the span from holiday to holiday, growing shorter as the traveled road becomes more and more familiar. And this will be true until the Christmas chimes ring for us all upon the shore of the land lying on the yon side of the dark river.

To the majority the fullness of joy at the coming of this day of days, such because of what it symbolizes, belongs with the memories of early childhood, when the imagination had not outgrown the possible sound of reindeers upon the roof, to which Santa Claus had come that he might descend with his budget for the good children of the household. What a delight it was to rise, even before the peep of day, and creep softly down the stairway to where were hung the stockings that we might make sure whether it was really Santa Claus we heard just as we were passing into dreamland the night before! And then what wondrous joy filled our childish hearts when we saw that he had not forgotten us, for the stockings were bulging out with hidden treasures! And then how we scurried back through the deep shadows that another time would have filled us with dread, to await the signal for a gathering of the youngsters when all together might survey what had been brought to each from the wonderful land of the far away, where Santa Claus lived and worked to make ready for another Christmas to come another year!

To think of those days makes one garrulous in their recall. I remember once being where I was the only child, and I wondered whether Santa Claus would know that I was not in my usual place. It was a serious matter, and I pondered long upon what I should do, so that he would not pass me by. Finally, at my grownup cousin's suggestion, I wrote a very courteous letter to the giver of gifts informing him of my temporary change of abode. When Christmas morning came, I found even more than the usual supply of pretty toys and good things, and my faith in Santa Claus was greater than ever. I have often thought since then that it was the same kind of implicit faith we should feel in the Father's willingness to give us our heart's desires, when we ask with a confidence unshadowed by doubt.

Another memory is of going ere the faintest glimmer of light shone in the east, to my stocking hung in the chimney corner, hoping to find nestling therein something which, for many weeks I had longed for with an intensity of desire that only a child may feel. No one in the house was stirring, "not even a mouse," when I crept out of my warm bed and stole softly to the old-fashioned fireplace in which a few coals still gave a glimmering light. Imagine the distress of my childish heart when I saw my stocking apparently filled with a bunch of slender willow branches carefully trimmed into effective switches. Not a doubt entered my mind but that Santa Claus had thus expressed his displeasure at certain naughty things I had done, although I had repented of them and received sweet absolution from my mother. Even the discovery later on that it was a mischievous freak of a boy in the household, and that what I had so longed for was really there, could entirely banish the pain the shock had given. It was the entering wedge of knowledge that in every cup of joy there may be unsuspected dregs of sorrow.

It took so little in the old days to satisfy children, but inventive genius has been at work, and a visit to toyland today is like going into the kingdom of fairies. The wonderful creations for the pleasure of little folks are bewildering in their number and beauty. Yesterday I saw a man with his gaze fixed upon such a display in the window before which he stood. Evidently he was one who must count the pennies that he could spend for Jack, and Mary and William and Katrina, and the problem of choice for him to solve, considering the array before him and his limitations, was most difficult. The last I saw of him he was still standing there, wrapped in profound meditation. I wondered whether there was most of pain or pleasure in his thought of the coming holiday; whether it was a time to dread, or one of glad anticipation of the pleasure he could give to his household. Was there any memory of the beautiful life which it commemorates, of the Great Master who told us how to live to high purpose, or was Christmas but a synonym of vexation of spirit or at best of a giving and receiving of material things?

Sorrowful as it is, Christmas has come to mean many things that we would fain forget, instead of that which we should remember. It is true that the spirit of gift-giving for the majority revolves in a little circle that includes relatives and friends, with small thought for the orphaned humanity outside. And one reason for this is because we cannot do what we long to do, even for those we love. We are thinking so much of the material things that we believe they need or which will give them pleasure, and of our own inability to procure them in order to express our love, that we forget that the Great Master did not set us this example.

Somewhere I read of one who was sorely perplexed and troubled because his power to make Christmas offerings was so limited. At last it came to him that he could send forth thoughts blossoming with faith and hope and love and courage, and their vibrations would reach hearts that were in sore need of such spiritual gifts. It would not matter that these needy ones could not know whence came their added power to meet the ills of life. It would be a gift worthy of the Christ himself, of the same sort as he gave to the world, and as the man realized this truth, his doubt and sorrow that he could not give all that he would of material gifts faded away.

In a book store yesterday sat a sweet-faced woman looking over cards upon which were printed words uttered by well-known authors, single paragraphs containing a winged thought of good. "I cannot spend much money this Christmas," she said, "but I will send these reminders of my love and good wishes, and perhaps they will give in sentiment just what is needed of help and inspiration.

She, too, was adding gifts to what has been called the World's Christmas tree, simply because she was adding to the higher life of the world. And let us all remember when the Christmas time draws nigh, that this same old world is in wondrous need of a cheerful heart.

Sing of gladness and of beauty. Let
the faith that cannot fail
In the great eternal Goodness, over
fear and doubt prevail.

This we may do even if we have no power to offer many or great material gifts. Remember that He whose birth and life we commemorate gave himself to humanity, and this means that the best gift we can make is loving, cheerful service to the world. And this is, it must be the real significance of the Festival now, and through all the days and years and centuries to come.

The Cozy Corner

A TRUE EXPERIENCE

I come with a confession (that I am ashamed to make) and a remedy for the sadness that sometimes comes to others, as it has to me, on the blessed Christmas day. Four years ago we had three children for whom we "made Christmas," to their great joy, and no less to our own. The pleasure of preparing the little, home-made gifts, and of saving for those we could not make ourselves—who does not understand what that is? No sacrifice seemed too great for father and mother to make, if thereby they could give the children a happier Christmas. The mysterious tree and equally mysterious packages that were deposited in a certain closet during the month before the day—a closet in which all were at liberty to deposit their gifts, but in which no one was supposed to see aught but what they, themselves, left. Then the excitement and happiness of placing them on the tree the day before Christmas—a process that was so full of secrecy and which was done by father and mother, until the oldest daughter was eighteen years old, when she was the chosen one, so that no extra work should come upon "mother."

The tears come in spite of everything when I recall those times, and every mother who reads this will know "just how I feel." This was three years ago. Two years ago father and I were alone on Christmas eve. During the year all three of our darlings were taken from us by the dreadful scourge of diphtheria that swept across our town. Many families were made desolate, but none but ours lost all. I cannot yet think of that time with entire resignation, and for many months I could do nothing but rebel against fate, and when Christmas time came I was nearly frantic at the remembrance of the previous year.

We sat alone all of that day recalling the scenes of that other Christmas; how full of grace and womanly qualities our oldest daughter seemed, and how we had spoken together of the comfort she would be in our declining years.

Of the boy, who was home from his first year in the preparatory school, how full he was of stories of adventures that seemed wonderful to us, and of his schoolmates, and how we laughed and enjoyed them with him. And the youngest—our baby girl we always called her—ah, well, friends, maybe you can tell from your own experiences how we spent that sad day.

And so we entered upon the New Year with our hearts full of bitterness, thinking nothing worse could befall us, and hardly caring what would come next. On New Year's morning we were awakened by a cry of fire, and looking from our window saw the house of one of our neighbors in flames. It was a bitter cold day, and in our little village there was no adequate fire protection, and though the neighbors turned out and we did all we could, the house was entirely destroyed and the family barely escaped with their lives.

They were all taken into homes and provided with all the comforts possible. The mother, who was just recovering from a severe illness, was brought to us as the nearest place, and with her came the two younger children. The shock was too much for the mother and she lived but a few days, and the husband, nearly distracted, seemed perfectly helpless as to doing anything for himself or his family, so he was sent to his parents' home, taking with him the two boys, and we kept the children that were with us.

It was from no goodness on our part I assure you, that we did this, for every cute little action of those children brought to us the memory of our little ones when they were young, but what were we to do? We could not turn those children out to care for themselves; the father was of no use to them, or anyone else, and none of the neighbors but had all they could do to care for their own. So they remained.

No need to tell you how by degrees we forgot some of our own trouble in caring for these new inmates in our home, nor how we were won from our selfish sorrow, and brought to see how, in our selfish joy, we had made the Christmas simply an occasion for doing more for the pleasure of ourselves and those we loved best, and had left out of our calculations and thoughts, the real reason for the Christmas; that we had left the Christ and Christ-spirit entirely out of our plans.

I do not believe in the doctrine that God takes our dearest ones from us as a punishment for loving them so much as we do; I think, rather, that He takes them so we can see where we have sinned in placing our love for them before every other thought, and, in His mercy, He thus gives us an opportunity of doing right, and of preparing ourselves to meet them in a future life, to which we cannot attain unless we are purged from all selfishness.

No need to take your time to tell how this change was accomplished, but this year at Christmas time, we shall have a Christmas tree again and on it will be placed the decorations used last for our own, and there will be gifts for those whom the Lord has given us to care for, and with these will be others whom we have found would lack a cheerful Christmas otherwise.

Now, dear friends of the Cozy Corner, this is no imaginary story written to "point a moral and adorn a tale," written as so many are for the purpose of reminding us to be charitable, but it is a true experience and written for the comfort and help of any others who may think their burden is the heaviest of anyone, and who do not know that comfort may be found by helping others to bear their burdens. I hear a call at the door: "Please come and help me sew this han-ker for brother," from the youngest of our children, so with a wish that all may have a Merry Christmas, I will go.—Mrs. E. D. H.

CHRISTMAS SENTIMENTS

The real spirit of Christmas is giving, not getting.

As you would that men do unto you, do ye even so to them!

Love is the all in all of life! It conquers hate, it conquers jealousy, it conquers war, it conquers wrong, it conquers us!

No life is made glorious but by the good it contains, the work it does for others, the truth it manifests, the greatness of soul it reveals.

The real testing times are not times of stress and storm and adversity, but when fortune favors and the tide of prosperity runs strong.

It is the man who seeks to rise above his fellows, not that he may help them, but simply to gratify his own vanity, whom the world finally comes to execrate.

How the months glide away into eternity. The new year—1907—will awaken us very soon. Eternity—that is a word of awful import. The year of 1906 nearly gone into eternity—well, what of it?

There is a lesson at Bethlehem. The world's best picture of God is to be found in the tiny babe in the manger there, destined to be misunderstood by his own and despised and rejected of men.

Every crisis has produced a man equal to its need. The yearning of every race for a leader has always been gratified. When the Grecian deities crumbled, there arose Socrates and Plato to tell of better things. When paganism waned there came a Paul to carry glad tidings of a new faith. When the Renaissance dawned a Bruno and a Galileo laid the groundwork of later science. When the serfs of Russia aspire to a higher freedom, there is a Tolstoi. When the world outgrows its narrow creeds and petty doctrines, there remains the broad principles of the sympathetic Christ.—The Pilgrim.

OUR HIRED GIRL

Our hired girl, she's 'Lizabuth Ann;
An' she can cook best things to eat!
She jist puts dough in our pie-pan,
An' pours in somepin' 'at's good and sweet.
An' nen she salts it all on top
With cinnamon; an' nen she'll stop
An' stoop an' slide it, ist as slow,
In th' old cook-stove, so's 'twon't slop
An' git all spilled; nen bakes it, so
It's custard pie, first thing you know!
An' nen she'll say:
"Clear out o' my way!
They's time fer work, an' time fer play!
Take yer dough, an' run, Child; run!
Er I cain't git no cookin' done!"

When our hired girl 'tends like she's mad,
An' says folks got to walk the chalk
When she's around, er wisht they had,
I play out on our porch an' talk
To th' Raggedy Man 'at mows our lawn;
An' he says "Whew!" an' nen leans on
His old crook-scythe, and blinks his eyes
An' sniffs all round an' says, "I swawn!
Ef my old nose don't tell me lies,
It 'pears like I smell custard-pies!"
An' nen he'll say:
"Clear out o' my way!
They's time fer work an' time fer play!
Take yer dough, an' run, Child; run!
Er she cain't git no cookin' done!"

Wunst our hired girl, when she
Got the supper, an' we all et,
An' it was night, an' Ma an' me
An' Pa went where the "Social" met—
An' nen when we come home, an' see
A light in the kitchen-door, an' we
Heerd a maccordeun, Pa says "Lan'—
O-Gracious! who can her beau be?"
An' I marched in, an' 'Lizabuth Ann
Wuz parchin' corn fer the Raggedy-Man!
Better say
"Clear out o' the way!
They's time fer work, an' time fer play!
Take the hint, an' run, Child; run!
Er we cain't git no courtin' done!"
—From James Whitcomb Riley's While the Heart Beats Young. Copyright, The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

World-Famed Painting

RAPHAEL'S SISTINE MADONNA.

The world-famed Sistine Madonna, painted by Raphael, a world-famed artist, born in 1483, and belonging to the early Italian school of artists, is one of the priceless possessions of the art gallery in Dresden, Germany. The Mecca of all visitors to the Dresden gallery is the small room in the farther corner where the picture is enshrined alone.

The Sistine Madonna is the apotheosis of motherhood. The white effulgence which surrounds the figures is suitable to this altar of wondering, divine innocence. The charm does not lie in the color, but in the expression. The deepest and truest spiritual insight is here exhibited, and Raphael has made the nearest approach to painting the soul that has ever been achieved.

When one considers his age, when he painted this picture, it seems almost incredible that a young man should have had sufficient knowledge of both worlds to paint such a flawless epitome of the Christian religion as the faces of this mother and her child. But, though Raphael's life did not measure itself by scores of years, work—the truest of all experiences—had been his portion; not drudgery of work, tiring body and soul with its monotony, but buoyant, interesting, vital work, which filled his longings and satisfied his ambitions, and made him independent of companionship or environment; work in which his mind and his technical skill were daily engaged, and in which he rejoiced with the strength and enthusiasm of an unspoiled vigor.

The characters which he had constant need to study during these early years were the sacred men of Scripture; the family of Our Lord; the subjects which he had been obliged to consider, and to consider deeply and seriously, before he could have painted them, were such as the Crucifixion, the Resurrection of Christ, the Virgin as a loving mother, as a sorrowing mourner, and as a saint transfigured. He had to conceive the spiritual forms of the hierarchies of heaven, to render visible to an unlettered people the forms of angels and archangels, and to portray all manifestations of human and divine love.

The Sistine Madonna was painted in 1515, at the order of the Benedictine monks of San Sisto, at Piacenza. The Elector of Saxony bought the picture from the monks in 1753 and brought it to his palace in Dresden. When they tried to place it on the palace wall to best advantage, they discovered that the only part of the room where the light was favorable, was in the spot where the throne stood. The Elector immediately ordered the displacement of the throne, that the place of honor might be secured for the picture.

The faces in the Sistine Madonna suggest the vital inspiration of passing thought and emotion. There is something of the eternal about the picture. It seems as if those wonderful eyes must have always looked into the souls of men—that they existed always, and that they will never cease to exist.—From the Art of the Dresden Gallery. L. C. Page & Co.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

For the first time for many months, a member comes making a direct request for information; let us hope some of our teachers will be able to answer it as it will apply to others than pupils, sometimes:

Dear M. G. R.'s: I would like to have some of our many teachers suggest a remedy for laziness. One of the pupils in our primary room is positively too lazy to move, and if breathing was not an involuntary process I think he would not take the trouble to continue it. We have tried every method known to us to overcome this, without avail, and now appeal to you who have—possibly—had better success.—"Napoleon."

Miss Prudence wishes to thank "Claribel" for the little booklet sent her, and to explain that it could not be used in the column because of its length—not from any lack of merit.

"Dolly Dimple" asks admittance, and as her letter is filled with inquiries as to where some of our most faithful members are, Miss Prudence fears "Dolly" does not read her paper very carefully. Also, the chaperon would remind her that the subject of milking, making bread and shirts, qualifications for marrying, is ancient history in the column, and the subject has been worn threadbare and is no longer of "general interest." "Dolly" calls herself "a little girl," which will account for her letter; when she is an older girl, we shall be very glad to have her write again.

I wonder how each of the M. G. R.'s will spend Christmas day? Many will leave their workshops of various kinds and go home for a good time; others perhaps, whose homes are far away from where they work, cannot take the time, or stand the expense of the journey for so short a visit. Again, there are others—poor souls—who have no home to go to, and these, to my mind, are the most unfortunate of all. To some—even some of our own goodly company of M. G. R.'s—the day will bring many sorrowful remembrances and will be a day of tears instead of smiles. Everyone will "celebrate" in his or her own way.

Those who have homes and friends will exchange gifts even though they may not be able to see each other, and probably all have been busy for weeks in preparing some token of their love for those dear ones, in making something that will be a daily reminder of the one who is far away.

Probably on the day itself we will attend services at our respective churches and we all hope that the thoughts of the feasting and social pleasures we anticipate, will not keep our thoughts from the chief reason we have for celebrating the day.

In making our arrangements for Christmas, we will, of course, strive to remember the poor, and give to those who are needy, and we will do this as a thank-offering for the benefits and blessings we have received through Him whose birthday we are observing, but let us, as M. G. R.'s, not forget those who need sympathy instead of bread; those to whom a kindly word will mean more than the material things, and if we have not already sent our written message of love to such as will find this a day of loneliness and sorrowful remembrance, let us take a little time from our rejoicing to write a note to these so they will know they are not forgotten by us on this day of good will to all. Wish them a happy and peaceful New Year, even though we know it would be but mockery to wish them — as I do you — a "Merry" Christmas.—"Missie" Ohio.

A Good Suggestion.

After the Christmas gifts have been duly admired and acknowledged, begin your preparations for next year. Does that sound premature? Possibly it is, but try it once and you will always do so ever afterwards. If you have duplicates of anything, put one of the articles away in your Christmas box to be given to someone else next year. Have you anything that your friend especially admires, make a note of it in your Christmas book, so you can make, or buy something like it for her.

When everyone around you is comparing notes as to the desirability of their various gifts, keep your ears and eyes open and you will receive many hints that will help you when you wish to know what this or that friend would like.

Banner Puzzlers

FOR OCT.

New Work ....Buckeye, Jr.
Solutions.....W. P. E.

CHRISTMAS PUZZLES.

PRIZE SET SENT BY HAWKEYE.

1.—CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.

My first is in heat, but not in cold;
My second is in laugh, but not in scold;
My third is in thee, but not in thou;
My fourth is in boat, but not in scow;
My fifth is in vine, but not in bush;
My sixth is in draw, but not in push;
My seventh's in hate, but not in love;
My eighth is in hawk, but not in dove;
My ninth is in work, but not in play;
My tenth is in waft, but not in sway;
My eleventh's in come, but not in go;
My twelfth is in haste, but not in slow;
My thirteenth's in farm, but not in home;
My fourteenth's in spire, but not in dome;
My fifteenth's in host, but not in crowd;
My sixteenth's in soft, but not in loud.
The whole of my first puzzle, was the occasion of my second puzzle.

2.—DOUBLE DIAGONALS.

O X X X X X X X X
X O X X X X X X X
X X O X X X X X X
O X X O X X X X X
X O X X O X X X X
X X O X X O X X X
X X X O X X O X X
X X X X O X X O X
X X X X X O X X O
X X X X X X O X X
X X X X X X X O X

1.—One who seeks office.
2.—To defy.
3.—A register of events.
4.—To make accustomed.
5.—A landed dwelling place.
6.—Resembling Atlas.
7.—A holiday.
8.—A wood nymph.
9.—Falters.
10.—The goddess of money.
11.—Without fault.

3.—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 25 letters. My 16-14-23-18-7-9-21-8, is to rule; my 1-24-3-4-2, is tranquility; my 17-12-6-19-5, indicates all; my 20-15-10-25, is forsaken; my 13-22-11, means procured. My whole should prevail on the occasion mentioned in my second puzzle.

4.—A TREE.

O
X O X
X X O X X
X X X O X X
X X X X O X X X X
X X X X X O X X X X X
X X X X X O X X X X X
O
O
X O X
X X O X X

1.—A consonant.
2.—An exclamation.
3.—A mistake.
4.—A betrayer.
5.—To exceed.
6.—Relating to fish.
7.—Introductory.
8.—To be abundant.
9.—A kind of gateway.
10.—A consonant.
11.—A consonant.
12.—A retreat.
13.—Pure.
Centrals name a delight to young and old.

5.—QUERY.

Who can tell us what has fixed the date of Christmas?

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"Truth is ever born in a manger."

Answers to Puzzles of December 6.

1.—Edward Everett.
2.—63.6+ ft.
3.—Words forming double acrostic; dash, echo, curl, envy, mind, bona, easy, rags. Primals, December holy days.
4.—W-hittier, I-ngelow, N-ewman, T-hackeray, E-liot, R-uskin. Initials, Winter.
5.—Collins Graves was the man who gave warning of the breaking of the dam of the reservoir at Williamsburg, Mass.
6.—James Beattie wrote:
"Vigor from toil, from trouble, patience grows;
The weakly blossom, warm in Summer bower,
Some tints of transient beauty may disclose;
But soon it withers in the chilling hour.
Mark yonder oaks! Superior to the power
Of all the warring winds of Heaven they rise;
And from the stormy promontory, tower
And toss their giant arms amid the skies;
While each assailing blast increase of strength supplies."

Chat.

The Schoolmistress wishes every one of her pupils, old and young, big and little, old standbys and newcomers, a Very Merry Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CHEER

Once more the sweet old story
Thrills through the frosty air;
Once more the heavenly message
Floats o'er the world of care;
Once more the bells are ringing,
And may they never cease
To echo back the tidings
On earth good-will and peace!

Once more the air is laden
With messages of love.
Earth tastes the joy celestial
That reigns supreme above.
May saddened hearts grow merry
Amid the hearty cheer,
While friends clasp hands as brothers,
And loved ones grow more dear.

So shall the joy of Christmas,
So shall its gifts divine,
Like Stars of fadeless beauty
O'er all our darkness shine;
Like blessed home-lights gleaming
Through night and mist and snow,
The Christmas Light shall comfort
Life's toilers here below.
—Lanta Wilson Smith in the Mothers' Magazine.

The North Wind's Christmas Tour

It was the last month of the year, and the last half of the last month, the very busiest and most perplexing, as well as the most interesting and delightful time of the year, because it brings with it that day of all days—Christmas.

The Christmas bustle and stir were in full tide all over the globe and away up in his far northern home the old North Wind was making ready for his December tour around the world.

"Bless me!" he blustered, glancing at his calendar—the sun—"the year is almost ended and Christmas will be here in a few days. I must hurry or I'll not get off in time to help Santa Claus with his work, and he is unusually busy this year, I understand, and needs my help."

Now it would have surprised some people, who consider the North Wind a cold, gruff, boisterous old fellow, to hear him talk of taking part in the Christmas festivities, and in the role of helper to good old Santa Claus, too, but he spoke in a very matter-of-fact tone, and went on with his preparations for his journey just as though a Christmas tour and helping Santa Claus were quite a matter of course and the regular order of things with him.

"Well, I'm off," said the old fellow at last, his preparations completed, and with a whirl of his coat tails that sent the snowflakes flying in every direction, away he went. Up hill and down, through the valley, over lake and river and pond, past field and village and town, he sped, filling the air with flying snowflakes and covering the earth with ice from his frosty breath.

"It will make Christmas so much merrier for the children and young folks," he roared to himself. "And I noticed that the older folks like a bit of snow and ice, too, at Christmas, to say nothing of how much easier it makes things for Santa Claus and his reindeer."

"Hello! Guess we're going to have a spell of weather," said the farmer, looking out over his brown meadows. "Mighty glad to see this snow, too. The wheat needed it, and crops are always better when snow sets in at Christmas. Regular norther we're having," he added. "Guess maybe I'd better take a load of wood and some potatoes and truck over to Widow Jones Christmas morning. Those young ones of hers have good hearty appetites, and the widow's so high-spirited, a body can't do much to help her out. But this cold snap'll be a good excuse and she can't object to a Christmas present." And he went into the house to consult with his wife about the kind of "truck" most likely to be acceptable to the Jones family.

"Whew! how cold it's getting," exclaimed the merchant, as a blast of cold air rushed into the well-heated store from an opening door. "Snowing, too; that's good. This will help trade immensely. We always have a fine trade when we have a cold, snowy Christmas. This change in the weather is worth a thousand dollars to me. I can afford to give the wife and children a pretty good Christmas this time, thanks to old Boreas."

Then came the thought of those to whom Christmas brought no good cheer except as charity should bestow it, and going to his desk he filled out a check for fifty dollars and sent it to the committee who were arranging a Christmas feast for the poor and neglected of the city.

Meanwhile the North Wind, still speeding on his journey, had reached the warm Southland where the terrible Fever Spectre had been holding high carnival for weeks, seizing upon men, women and children and laying them upon beds of suffering and pain, and in many cases death, bringing to the homes of the land gloom and sorrow and filling all hearts with fear and dread.

"Aha!" said the old North Wind, as he saw the state of things, "this is where I'm needed. I'll soon put an end to this. A pretty Christmas they'd have here if this went on!"

And giving his cloak an indignant whirl, he rushed over the land so fiercely and determinedly that the Fever Spectre who had hesitated and faltered in his work of destruction at the first icy breath of the North Wind, now dropped everything and fled in terror and dismay before the indignant old fellow's terrible blasts, leaving his poor victims pale and weak, but happy and thankful enough over his departure and their escape from his clutches.

"Thank God for this north wind," said the doctor, returning from his round of visits to his patients. "This frost and snow will effectually end the fever's ravages, and we shall have a right Merry Christmas yet."

"There!" panted the North Wind, "that finishes my journey, and now I must get back home in time for my own Christmas dinner. Hello! what's this" and darting down the chimney of a big tenement house over which he was passing, he brought up a slip of paper on which something was printed in a child's unskilful hand.

"Thought maybe I'd find some little matters to attend to on my way home, and here's one of them now. Looks like one of those letters Santa Claus is always getting from the children. Yes, that's what it is," he continued, blowing the folded sheet open and examining it hastily. "A letter to Santa Claus from some of those poor little fellows in that big, forlorn house. I suppose I missed it when I went this way before, and now it's too late to get it to Santa Claus in time for him to attend to it, for I'll not get home tonight before he starts out on his trip. I'll just have to look after it myself."

All this time he was twirling the little soot-stained note around thoughtfully and tossing it from one hand to the other. But now he caught it up, puffed out his cheeks, and with one strong whiff of his breath sent it flying, across streets and houses, straight to the window of a pleasant, comfortable-looking house a few blocks away, where it fluttered, fell, and rested on the broad window-sill.

"Oh, mamma! what's that?" exclaimed a young girl sitting in an easy chair close to the window, as the little letter danced before her, and quickly opening the window, she drew in the little missive, eagerly unfolded it and read:

"Deer Santy claws plese cum to our hous and bring us som crismus gifts and we will love you.

"Robbie and Minnie Brown."

"Oh, mamma," said the child, "if we only knew where they lived we could send them some Christmas gifts. There's the doll I dressed, and the scrap-books I made, and I have enough pennies to buy something for the little boy, if we only could find them," and the sweet voice was trembling with excitement and regret.

"Well, dear," said the mother, smiling at the child's eagerness, "I think we can find them, for on this side of the children's letter is the name of the street and the number of the house. Someone has evidently begun a letter and got no further than that. But this is all we need; and when Aunt Alice comes I will get her to sit with you while I go out and hunt up your little proteges."

"Oh, goody, goody!" exclaimed the little girl, clapping her hands joyously. "And if you find them I shall have a happy, happy Christmas, for I could not bear to have everybody doing so much for me and I not doing anything for anybody."

The North Wind had lingered to see if his further services would be needed in behalf of the children's letter, but on hearing this he laughed softly and resumed his journey.

"No need to give myself any uneasiness about that," he chuckled. "The Brown youngsters will have a Merry Christmas without any more help from me," and he moved briskly on. "Time's flying," he muttered, "and I must be getting home; but there's just one more matter I must look after, if it takes the rest of the day." And gathering up his cloak with a determined air, he swooped down upon a highly respectable looking and unsuspecting gentleman walking briskly along the street, and lifting his hat from his head, carried it off down the street and around the corner at a great rate.

The gentleman followed as quickly as possible, but he was not so brisk as the North Wind, and would have given up the chase in despair; but a boy, light of weight and swift of foot, came to his help and soon brought back the missing property.

The gentleman thanked his young helper, and noticing how scanty was his clothing for such a cold, snowy day, was prompted to ask his name.

When the boy gave the information asked, the gentleman turned pale, hesitated, then asked where he lived. The boy told him, and the man turned paler still; then taking the boy by the arm, he said in a choked tone:

"You must be my nephew—my sister's child. We disagreed when we were young, and I haven't seen her since. I thought she was living in a distant city. Take me to her."

And as the rich, prosperous man went off with the poorly-dressed boy to find his sister, the North Wind laughed aloud with delight and capered about like some giddy, frisky little April breeze.

"A good day's work, and now for home," he said, settling down to a steady, even pace. "I confess I'm a trifle blown and somewhat warmed up, and shall be glad to have a chance to cool off and get my breath."

As he drew near to his own comfortable quarters, he met Santa Claus just starting out on his Christmas eve tour.

"Many thanks for your help," shouted that jolly fellow, "and a Merry Christmas to you."

But the North Wind's work was not complete until he had presented himself to his Master and made his report. When he had finished, the Christmas Angels gathered about him and sang a beautiful Christmas carol to his phrase. But the Christ Child whose birthday is the Christmas Day, and who is the Master of the North Wind and Santa Claus and all the Christmas Angels, smiled approvingly upon him and said, "Well done."—Jennie White in Christmas Selections.

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IS FULL OF ENTHUSIASM

The President Sends Panama Message to Congress.

Washington, Dec. 17.—President Roosevelt transmitted to congress this afternoon his special message on the Panama canal, in which he describes graphically and in detail his recent trip to the isthmus. The message is as follows:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives:

"In the month of November I visited the Isthmus of Panama, going over the canal zone with considerable care, and also visited the cities of Panama and Colon, which are not in the zone or under the United States flag, but as to which the United States government, thru its agents, exercises control for certain sanitary purposes.

"The U. S. S. Louisiana, on which I was anchored off Colon about half past 2 Wednesday afternoon, November 14. I came aboard her, after my stay on shore, at half past 9 on Saturday evening, November 17. On Wednesday afternoon and evening I received the president of Panama and his suite, and saw members of the canal commission and various other gentlemen, perfecting the arrangement for my visit, so that every hour that I was ashore could be employed to advantage. I was three days ashore—not a sufficient length of time to allow of an exhaustive investigation of the minutiae of the work of any single department, still less to pass judgment on the engineering problems, but enough to enable me to get a clear idea of the salient features of the great work and of the progress that has been made as regards the sanitation of the zone, Colon and Panama, the caring for and housing of the employes, and the actual digging of the canal. The zone is a narrow strip of land, and I rode, I believed much as one can inspect 50 or 60 miles of a great railroad, at the point where it runs thru mountains or overcomes other natural obstacles.

"I chose the month of November for my visit partly because it is the rainiest month of the year, the month in which the work goes forward at the greatest disadvantage, and one of the two months which the medical department found most unhealthy.

"Immediately after anchoring on the afternoon of Wednesday there was a violent storm of wind and rain. From that time we did not again see the sun until Saturday morning, the rain continuing almost steadily, but varying from a fine drizzle to a torrential downpour. During that time in fifteen minutes at Cristobal 1.05 inches of rain fell; from 1 to 3 a. m., November 16, 3.2 inches fell; for the 24 hours ending noon, November 16, 4.68 inches fell, and for the six days ending noon, November 19, 10.24 inches fell. The Chagres rose in flood to a greater height than it had attained during the last fifteen years, tearing out the track in one place. It would have been impossible to see the work going on under more unfavorable weather conditions. On Saturday, November 17, the sun shone now and then for a few minutes, altho the day was generally overcast, and there were heavy showers at intervals.

First Day Ashore.

"On Thursday morning we landed at about half past 7 and went slowly over the line of the Panama railway, ending with an expedition in a tug at the Pacific entrance of the canal out to the islands where the dredging for the canal will cease. We took our dinner at one of the eating houses furnished by the commission for the use of the government employees, and received our incoming letters given. I inspected the Ancon hospital, going thru various wards both for white patients and for colored patients. I inspected portions of the constabulary (zone police), examining the men individually. I also examined certain of the schools and saw the school children, both white and colored, spending especial attention to the teachers. In the afternoon I was formally received in Panama by President Amador, who, together with the government and all the people of Panama, treated me with the most considerate courtsy, for which I hereby extend my most earnest thanks. I was driven thru Panama and in a public square was formally received and welcomed by the president and other members of the government; and in the evening I attended a dinner given by the president and a reception, which was also a government function. I also drove thru the streets of Panama for the purpose of observing what had been done.

The Second Day.

"On Friday morning we left the hotel at 7 o'clock and spent the entire day going thru the Culebra cut—the spot in which most work will have to be done in any event. We watched the different steam shovels working; we saw the drilling and blasting; we saw many of the dirt trains (of the two different types used), both carrying the earth away from the steam shovels and depositing it on the dumps—some of the dumps being built in the jungle merely to get rid of the earth, while in other cases they are being used for double tracking the railway, and in preparing to build the great dams. I visited many of the different villages, inspecting thoroly many different buildings—the local receiving hospitals, the houses in which the unmarried white workmen live, those in which the unmarried colored workmen live; also the quarters of the white married employees and of the married colored employees; as well as the commissary stores, the bath houses, the water-closets, the cook sheds for the colored laborers, and the government canteens, or hotels, at which most of the white employees take their meals. I went thru the machine shops. During the day I talked with scores of different men—superintendents and heads of departments, divisions, and bureaus; steam-shovel men, machinists, conductors, engineers, clerks, wives of the American employees, health officers, colored laborers, colored attendants, and managers of the commissary stores where food is sold to the colored laborers; wives of the colored employees who are married. In the evening I had an interview with the British consul, Mr. Mallet, who has a peculiar relation to our work because the bulk of the colored laborers come from the British West Indies. I saw the lieutenants, the chief executive and administrative officers under the engineering and sanitary departments. I also saw and had long talks with two deputations—one of machinists and one representing the railway men of the dirt trains—listening to what they had to say as to the rate of pay and various other matters and going over, as much in detail as possible, all the different questions they brought up.

The Third Day.

"On Saturday morning we started at 8 o'clock from the hotel. We went thru the Culebra cut, stopping off to see the marines, and also to investigate certain towns; one, of white employees, as to which in certain respects complaint had been made to me; and another town where I wanted to see certain houses of the colored employees. We went over the site of the proposed Gatun dam, having on the first day inspected the sites of the proopsed La Boca and Sosa dams. We went out on a little toy railway to the reservoir which had been built to supply the people of Colon with water for their houses. We then went thru the stores and shops of Cristobal, inspecting carefully the houses of both the white and colored employees, married and unmarried. We then went to Colon and saw the fire department at work. We rode about Colon, thru the various streets, paved, unpaved, and in process of paving, looking at the ditches, sewers, curbing, and the lights. I then went over the Colon hospital in order to compare it with the temporary town or field receiving hospitals which I had already seen and inspected.

"Each day from twelve to eighteen hours were spent in going over and inspecting all there was to be seen, and in examining various employees. Thruout my trip I was accompanied by the surgeon-general of the navy, Doctor Rixey; by the chairman of the isthmian canal commission, Mr. Shonts; by Chief Engineer Stevens; by Doctor Gorgas, the chief sanitary officer of the commission; by Mr. Bishop, the secretary of the commission; by Mr. Ripley, the principal assistant engineer; by Mr. Jackson Smith, who has had practical charge of collecting and handling the laboring force; by Mr. Bierd, general manager of the railway, and by Mr. Rogers, the general counsel of the commission; and many other officials joined us from time to time.

"At the outset I wish to pay a tribute to the amount of work done by the French canal company under very difficult circumstances. Many of the buildings they put up were excellent and are still in use, tho, naturally, the houses are now getting out of repair and are being used as dwellings only until other houses can be built, and much of the work they did in the Culebra cut, and some of the work they did in digging has been of direct and real benefit. This country has never made a better investment than the $40,000,000 which it paid to the French company for work and betterments, including especially the Panama railroad.

"As inspection on the ground at the height of the rainy season served to convince me of the wisdom of congress in refusing to adopt either a high-level or a sea-level canal. There seems to be a universal agreement among all people competent to judge that the Panama route, the one actually chosen, is much superior to both the Nicaragua and Darien routes.

Preliminary Work Being Done.

"The wisdom of the canal management has been shown in nothing more clearly than in the way in which the foundations of the work have been laid. To have yielded to the natural impatience of ill-informed outsiders and begun all kinds of experiments in work prior to a thoro sanitation of the isthmus, and to a fairly satisfactory working out of the problem of getting and keeping a sufficient labor supply, would have been disastrous. The various preliminary measures had to be taken first; and these could not be taken so as to allow us to begin the real work of construction prior to January 1 of the present year. It then became necessary to have the type of the canal decided, and the only delay has been the necessary delay until the 26th day of June, the date when the congress definitely and wisely settled that we should have an 85-foot level canal. Immediately after that the work began in hard earnest and has been continued with increasing vigor ever since; and it will continue so to progress in the future. When the contracts are let the conditions will be such as to insure a constantly increasing amount of performance.

Successful Sanitation.

"The first great problem to be solved, upon the solution of which the success of the rest of the work depended, was the problem of sanitation. This was from the outset under the direction of Dr. W. C. Gorgas, who is to be made a full member of the commission if the law as to the composition of the commission remains unchanged. It must be remembered that his work was not mere sanitation as the term is understood in our ordinary municipal work. Thruout the zone and in the two cities of Panama and Colon, in addition to the sanitation work proper, he has had to do all the work that the marine hospital service does as regards the nation, that the health department officers do in the various states and cities, that Colonel Waring did in New York when he cleaned its streets. The results have been astounding. The isthmus had been a byword for deadly unhealthfulness. Now, after two years of our occupation the conditions as regards sickness and the death rate compare favorably with reasonably healthy localities in the United States. Especial care has been devoted to minimizing the risk due to the presence of those species of mosquitoes which have been found to propagate malarial and yellow fevers. In the settlements, the little temporary towns or cities composed of the white and black employes, which grow up here and there in the tropic jungle as the needs of the work dictate, the utmost care is exercised to keep the conditions healthy. Everywhere are seen the drainage ditches which in removing the water have removed the breeding places of the mosquitoes, while the whole jungle is cut away for a considerable space around the habitations, thus destroying the places in which the mosquitoes take shelter. These drainage ditches and clearings are in evidence in every settlement, and, together with the invariable presence of mosquito screens around the piazzas, and of mosquito doors to the houses, not to speak of the careful fumigation that has gone on in all infected houses, doubtless explain the extraordinary absence of mosquitoes. As a matter of fact, but a single mosquito, and this not of the dangerous species, was seen by any member of our party during the seven days on the isthmus. Equal care is taken by the inspectors of the health department to secure cleanliness in the houses and proper hygienic conditions of every kind.

Hospitals and Their Treatment.

"I inspected the large hospitals at Ancon and Colon, which are excellent examples of what tropical hospitals should be. I also inspected the receiving hospitals in various settlements. I went thru a number of the wards in which the colored men are treated, a number of those in which the white men are treated—American and Spaniards. Both white men and black men are treated exactly alike, and their treatment is as good as that which could be obtained in our first-class hospitals at home. All the patients that I saw, with one or two exceptions, were laborers or other employes on the canal works and railways, most of them being colored men of the ordinary laborer stamp. Not only are the men carefully cared for whenever they apply for care, but so far as practicable a watch is kept to see that if they need it they are sent to the hospitals, whether they desire to go or not. From no responsible source did any complaint come to me as to the management of the hospital service, altho occasionally a very ignorant West India negro when he is first brought into the hospital becomes frightened by the ordinary hospital routine.

Health Showing Remarkably Good.

"Just at present the health showing on the Isthmus is remarkably good—so much better than in most sections of the United States that I do not believe that it can possibly continue at quite its present average. Thus, early in the present year a band of several hundred Spaniards were brought to the Isthmus as laborers, and additions to their number have been made from time to time; yet since their arrival in February last but one of those Spaniards has thus been taken off, on the canal has died of disease, and he of typhoid fever. Two others were killed, one in a railroad accident, and one by a dynamite explosion. There has been for the last six months a well-nigh steady decline in the death rate for the population of the zone, this being largely due to the decrease in deaths from pneumonia, which has been the most fatal disease on the Isthmus. In October there were ninety-three deaths of every kind among the employes of the Isthmus. There were then on the rolls 5,500 whites, seven-eighths of them being Americans. Of these whites but two died of disease, and as it happened neither man was an American. Of the 6,000 white Americans, including some 1,200 women and children, not a single death has occurred in the zone for three months, whereas in an average city in the United States the number of deaths for a similar number of people in that time would have been about thirty from disease. This very remarkable showing cannot, of course, permanently obtain, but it certainly goes to prove that if good care is taken the Isthmus is not a particularly unhealthy place. In October, of the 19,000 negroes on the roll 86 died from disease; pneumonia being the most destructive disease, and malarial fever coming second. The difficulty of exercising a thoro supervision over the colored laborers is, of course, greater than is the case among the whites, and they are also less competent to take care of themselves, which accounts for the fact that their death rate is so much higher than that of the whites, in spite of the fact that they have been used to similar climatic conditions. Even among the colored employes it will be seen that the death rate is not high.

Diminution of Mosquitoes.

"In Panama and Colon the death rate has also been greatly reduced, this being directly due to the vigorous work of the special brigade of employes who have been inspecting houses where the stegomyia mosquito is to be found, and destroying its larvae and breeding places, and doing similar work in exterminating the malarial mosquitoes—in short, in performing all kinds of hygienic labor. A little over a year ago all kinds of mostquitoes, including the two fatal species, were numerous about the Culebra cut. In this cut during last October every room of every house was carefully examined and only two mosquitoes, neither of them of the two fatal species, were found. Unfaltering energy in inspection, and in disinfecting and in the work of draining and of clearing brush are responsible for the change.

"Corozal, some 4 miles from La Boca, was formerly one of the most unsanitary places on the Isthmus, probably the most unsanitary. There was a marsh with a pond in the middle. Doctor Gorgas had both the marsh and pond drained and the brush cleared off, so that now, when I went over the ground, it appeared like a smooth meadow intersected by drainage ditches. The breeding places and sheltering spots of the dangerous mosquitoes had been completely destroyed. The result is that Corozal for the last six months (like La Boca, which formerly also had a very unsanitary record) shows one of the best sick rates in the Zone, having less than 1 per cent. a week admitted to the hospital.

Improvements in Panama and Colon.

"The sanitation work in the cities of Panama and Colon has been just as important as in the Zone itself, and in many respects much more difficult, because it was necessary to deal with the already existing population, which naturally had scant sympathy with revolutionary changes, the value of which they were for a long time not able to perceive. In Colon the population consists largely of colored laborers, who, having come over from the West Indies to work on the canal, abandon the work and either take to the brush or lie idle in Colon itself; thus peopling Colon with the least desirable among the imported laborers, for the good and steady men, of course, continue at the work. Yet astonishing progress has been made in both cities. In Panama 20 per cent. of the streets that are to be paved at all are already paved with an excellent brick pavement laid in heavy concrete, a few of the streets being still in process of paving. The sewer and water services in the city are of the most modern hygienic type, some of the service having just been completed.

"In Colon the conditions are peculiar, and it is as regards Colon that most of the very bitter complaint has been made. Colon is built on a low island, covered at more or less shallow depths with vegetable accumulations or mold, which affords sustenance and strength to many varieties of low-lying tropical plants. One-half of the surface of the island is covered with water at high tide, the average height of the land being 1½ feet above low tide. The slight undulations furnish shallow, natural reservoirs or fresh-water breeding places for every variety of mosquito, and the ground tends to be lowest in the middle. When the town was originally built no attempt was made to fill the low ground, either in the streets or on the building sites, so that the entire surface was practically a quagmire; when the quagmire became impassable certain of the streets were crudely improved by filling especially bad mud-holes with soft rock or other material. In September, 1905, a systematic effort was begun to formulate a general plan for the proper sanitation of the city; in February last temporary relief measures were taken, while in July the prosecution of the work was begun in good earnest. The results are already visible in the sewering, draining, guttering and paving of the streets, and in four months will be required before the work of sewerage and street improvement will be completed, but the progress already made is very marked. Ditches have been dug thru the town, connecting the salt water on both sides, and into these the ponds, which have served as breeding places for the mosquitoes, are drained.

Colon Water Supply.

"It was not practicable, with the force at the commission's disposal, and in view of the need that the force should be used in the larger town of Panama, to begin this work before early last winter. Water mains were then laid in the town and water was furnished to the people early in March from a temporary reservoir. This reservoir proved to be of insufficient capacity before the end of the dry season, and the shortage was made up by hauling water over the Panama railroad, so that there was at all times an amply supply of the very best of water. Since that time the new reservoir back of Mount Hope has been practically completed. It is a lake over a mile long and half a mile broad. It now carries some 500,000,000 gallons of first-class water.

"One of the most amusing (as well as disheartening) attacks made upon the commission was that it had failed to provide a privilege system for the zone, this never hold water anyway. Accompanying this message, is a photograph of the reservoir as I myself saw it, and as it has been in existence ever since the article in question was published.

Colon Pavements.

"I rode thru the streets of Colon, seeing them at the height of the rainy season, after two days of almost unexampled downpour, when they were at their very worst, as well as when they were undoubtedly very bad; as bad as Pennsylvania avenue in Washington before Grant's administration. Front street is already in thoroly satisfactory shape however. Some of the side streets are also in good condition. In others the change that is rapidly rapidly going on. Thru three-fourths of the town it is now possible to walk, even during the period of tremendous rain, in low shoes without wetting one's feet, owing to the rapidity with which the surface water is carried away in the ditches. In the remaining one-fourth of the streets the mud is very deep—about as deep as in the ordinary street of a low-lying prairie river town of the same size in the United States during early pring. All men to whom I spoke were a unit in saying that the conditions in the Colon streets were 100 per cent better than a year ago. The most superficial examination of the town shows the progress that has been made and is being made in macadamizing the streets.

Complaints Not Well Founded.

"It is impossible to avoid some mistakes in building a giant canal thru jungle-covered mountains and swamps, while at the same time sanitating tropic cities, and providing for the feeding and general care of from twenty to thirty thousand workers. The complaints brought to me, either of insufficient provision caring for some of the laborers, or of failure to finish the pavements of Colon, or of failure to supply water, or of failure to build wooden sidewalks for the use of the laborers in the rainy season, on investigation proved, almost without exception, to be due merely to the utter inability of the commission to do everything at once.

"For instance, it was imperative that Panama, which had the highest death rate and where the chance of yellow fever epidemic was the greatest, must be cared for first; yet most of the complaints as to the delay in taking care of Colon were due to the inability or unwillingness to appreciate this simple fact. Again, as the thousands of laborers are brought over and housed, it is not always possible to do the outside supply wooden walks and bath houses, because other more vital necessities have to be met; and in consequence, while most of the settlements have good bath houses, and, to a large extent at least, wooden walks, there are plenty of settlements where wooden walks have not yet been laid down, and I visited one where the bath houses have not been provided. But in this very settlement the frames of the bath houses are already up, and in every case the utmost effort is being made to provide the wooden walks. Of course, some of the newest camps tents are used pending the building of houses. Where possible, I think detached houses would be preferable to the semidetached houses now in general use.

"Care and forethought have been exercised by the commission, and nothing has reflected more credit upon them than their refusal either to go ahead too fast or to be deterred by the fear of criticism from not going ahead fast enough. It is curious to note the fact that many of the most severe critics of the commission criticise exactly precisely opposite reasons, some complaining bitterly that the work is not in a more advanced condition, while the others complain that it has been rushed with such haste that there has been insufficient preparation for the hygiene and comfort of the employes. As a matter of fact neither criticism is just. It would have been impossible to go quicker than the commission has gone, for such quickness would have meant insufficient preparation. On the other hand, to refuse to do anything until every possible future contingency had been met would have caused wholly unwarranted delay. The right course to follow was exactly the course which has been followed. Every reasonable preparation was made in advance, the hygienic conditions in especial being made as nearly perfect as possible.

"In addition to attending to the health of the employes, it is of course necessary to provide for policing the Zone. This is done by a police force which at present numbers over 200 men, under Captain Shanton. About one-fifth of the men are white and the others black. In different places I questioned some twenty or thirty of these men, taking them at random. They were a fine set, physically and in discipline. With one exception all the white men I questioned had served in the American army, usually in the Philippines, and belonged to the best type of American soldier. Without exception the black policemen whom I questioned had served either in the British army or in the Jamaica or Barbados police. They were evidently contented, and were doing their work well.

"Inasmuch as so many both of the white and colored employes have brought their families with them, schools have been established. For the white pupils white American teachers are employed; for the colored pupils there are also some white American teachers, one Spanish teacher, and one colored American teacher, most of them being colored teachers from Jamaica, Barbados and St. Lucia.

"There seemed to me to be too many saloons in the Zone; but the new high license law which goes into effect on January 1 next will probably close four-fifths of them.

Care of Employes.

"Next in importance to the problem of sanitation, and indeed now of equal importance, is the problem of securing and caring for the mechanics, laborers and other employes who actually do the work on the canal and the railroad. At present there are some 6,000 white employes and some 19,000 colored employes on the Isthmus. I went over the different places where the different kinds of employes were working; I think I saw representatives of every type both at their work and in their homes; and I conversed with probably a couple of hundred of them all told, choosing them at random from every class and including those who came especially to present certain grievances.

"Nearly 5,000 of the white employes had come from the United States. They represent on the average a high class. Doubtless to congress the wages paid them will seem high, but as a matter of fact the only general complaint which I found had any real basis among the complaints made to me upon the Isthmus was that, owing to the peculiar surroundings, the cost of living, and the distance from home, the wages were really not as high as they should be. In fact, almost every man I spoke to felt that he ought to be receiving more money—a view, however, which the average man who stays at home in the United States probably likewise holds as regards himself.

"Later I shall confer on the subject with certain representative labor men here in the United States, as well as going over with Mr. Stevens, the comparative wages paid on the zone and at home; and I may then communicate my findings to the canal committees of the two houses.

Quarters Good and Satisfactory.

"The white Americans are employed, some of them in office work, but the majority in handling the great steam shovels, as engineers and conductors on the dirt trains, as machinists in the great repair shops, as carpenters and timekeepers, superintendents, and foremen of divisions and of gangs, and so on and so on. The bachelors among the employes live, sometimes in small separate houses, sometimes in large houses; quarters being furnished free to all the men, married and unmarried. Usually the bachelors sleep two in a room, as they would do in this country. I found a few cases where three were in a room; and I was told of, although I did not see, large rooms in which four were sleeping; for it is not possible in what is really a vast system of construction camps always to provide in advance as ample house room as the commission intend later to give. In one case, where the house was an old French house with a leak in the roof, I did not think the accommodations were good. But in every other case among the scores of houses I entered at random, the accommodations were good; every room was neat and clean, usually having books, magazines, and small ornaments; and in short just such a room as a self-respecting craftsman would be glad to live in at home. The quarters for the married people were in bungalows, each with its garden. Here and there a married couple who, with or without reason, are not contented with their house on the isthmus; but I never happened to strike such a couple. The wives of the steam shovel men, engineers, machinists and carpenters into whose houses I went, all with one accord expressed pleasure in and pride in their home life and surroundings. Indeed I do not think they could have done otherwise. The houses themselves were excellent—bathroom, sitting room, piazza and bedrooms being all that could be desired.

A Thirty-Cent Meal.

"The housewives purchase their supplies directly, or through their husbands, from the commissary stores of the commission. All to whom I spoke agreed that the supplies were excellent and all that two stated that there was no complaint to be made; these two complained that the prices were excessive as compared to the prices in the states. On investigation I did not feel that this complaint was well founded. The married men ate at home. The unmarried men sometimes took a private table board, sometimes in private messes, but more often, judging by the answers of those whom I questioned, at the government canteens or hotels where the meal cost 30 cents for each employe. This 30-cent meal struck me as being as good a meal as we get in the United States at the ordinary hotel in which a 75-cent meal is provided, three-fourths of the men whom I questioned stated that the meals furnished at these government hotels were good, the remaining one-fourth that they were not good I myself took dinner at the La Boca government hotel, no warning whatever having been given of my coming. There were two rooms, as generally in these hotels. The 30-cent meal included soup, native beef (which was good), mashed potatoes, peas, beets, chili con carne, plum pudding, tea, coffee—each man having as much of each dish as he desired. On the table there was a bottle of liquid quinine tonic, which two-thirds of the guests, as I was informed, used every day. There were neat tablecloths and napkins. The men, who were taking the meal at or about the same time, included railroad men, machinists, shipwrights and members of the office force. The rooms were clean, comfortable and airy, with mosquito screens around the outer piazza. I was informed by some of those present that this hotel, and also the other similar hotels, were every Saturday night turned into clubhouses where the American officials, the school teachers, and various employes, appeared bringing their wives, there being dancing and singing. My meal was excellent, and two newspaper correspondents who had been on the isthmus several days informed me that it was precisely like the meals they had been getting elsewhere at other government hotels.

"I came to the conclusion that, speaking generally, there was no warrant for complaint about the food. Doubtless it grows monotonous after awhile. Any man acustomed to handling large masses of men knows that some of them, even tho otherwise very good men, are sure to grumble about something, and usually about their food.

Chinese and Other Labor.

"Of the nineteen or twenty thousand day laborers employed on the canal, a few hundred are Spaniards. These do excellent work. Their foreman told me that they did twice as well as the West India laborers. They keep healthy and no difficulty is experienced with them in any way. Some Italian laborers are also employed in connection with the drilling. As might be expected, with labor as high priced as at present in the United States, it has not so far proved practicable to get any ordinary laborers from the United States. The American wageworkers on the isthmus are the highly paid skilled mechanics of the types mentioned previously. A steady effort is being made to secure Italians, and especially to procure more Spaniards, because of the very satisfactory results that have come from their employment; and their numbers will be increased as far as possible. It has not proved possible, however, to get them in anything like the numbers needed for the work, and from present appearances we shall in the main have to rely, for the ordinary unskilled work, partly upon colored laborers from the West Indies, partly upon Chinese labor. It certainly ought to be unnecessary to point out that the American workingman in the United States has no concern whatever in the question as to whether or not enough work is done in the isthmus, which is performed by aliens from one country with a black skin or by aliens from another country with a yellow skin. Our business is to dig the canal as efficiently and as quickly as possible, provided always that nothing is done that is inhumane to any laborers, and nothing that interferes with the wages of or lowers the standard of living of our own workmen. Having in view this principle, I have arranged to try several thousand Chinese laborers. This is for the reason that because we must try to find out what laborers are most efficient and, furthermore, because we should not leave ourselves at the mercy of any one type of foreign labor. At present the great bulk of the unskilled labor on the isthmus is done by West India negroes, chiefly from Jamaica, Barbados, and the other English possessions. One of the governors of the lands in question has shown an unfriendly disposition to our work, and has thrown obstacles in the way of our getting the labor needed; and it is highly undesirable to give any outsiders the impression, however ill founded, that they are indispensable and can dictate terms to us.

Work of Construction.

"The work is now going on with a vigor and efficiency pleasant to witness. The three big problems of the canal are the La Boca dams, the Gatun dam, and the Culebra cut. The Culebra cut must be made, anyhow; but of course changes as to the dams, or at least as to the locks adjacent to the dams, may still occur. The La Boca dams offer no particular problem, the bottom material being so good that there is a practical certainty, not merely as to what can be achieved, but as to the time of achievement. The Gatun dam offers the most serious problem which we have to solve; and yet the ablest men on the Isthmus believe that this problem is certain of solution along the lines proposed; although, of course, it necessitates great toil, energy, and intelligence, and although equally, of course, there will be some little risk in connection with the work. If the huge Gatun dam now contemplated the thrown across from one foothill to the other we will have what is practically a low, broad, mountain ridge behind which will rise the inland lake. This artificial mountain will probably show less seepage, that is, will have greater watertight capacity than the average natural mountain range. The exact locality of the locks at this dam—as at the other dams—is now being determined. In April next Secretary Taft, with three of the ablest engineers of the country—Messrs. Noble, Stearns, and Ripley—will visit the Isthmus, and the three engineers will make the final and conclusive examinations as to the exact site for each lock. Meanwhile the work is going ahead without a break.

"As soon as the type of canal was decided this work began in good earnest. The rainy season will shortly be over and then there will be an immense increase in the amount taken out; but even during the last three months, in the rainy season, steady progress is shown by the figures: In August, 242,000 cubic yards; in September, 291,000 cubic yards, and in October, 325,000 cubic yards. In October new records were established for the output of individual shovels as well as for the tonnage haul of individual locomotives. Passing through the cut the amount of new work can be seen at a glance. In one place the entire side of a hill had been taken out recently by 27 tons of dynamite, which were exploded at one blast. At another place I was given a Presidential salute of 21 charges of dynamite. On the top notch of the Culebra cut the prism is now as wide as it will be; all told, the canal bed at this point has now been sunk about 200 feet below what it originally was. It will have to be sunk about 130 feet farther. Throughout the cut the drilling, blasting, shoveling, and hauling are going on with constantly increasing energy, the huge shovels being forever up, as if they were mountain howitzers, in the most unlikely looking places, where they eat their way into the hillsides.

Critics and Doubting Thomases.

"It is not only natural, but inevitable, that a work as gigantic as this which has been undertaken on the isthmus should arouse every species of hostility and criticism. The conditions are so new and so trying, and the work so vast, that it would be absolutely out of the question that mistakes should not be made. Checks will occur. Unforeseen difficulties will arise. From time to time seemingly well-settled plans will have to be changed. At present 25,000 men are engaged on the task. After a while the number will be doubled. In such a multitude it is inevitable that there should be here and there a scoundrel. Very many of the poorer class of laborers lack the mental development to protect themselves against either the rascality of others or their own folly, and it is not possible for human wisdom to devise a plan by which they can invariably be protected. The isthmus has been for ages a byword of unhealthfulness, and with so large a congregation of strangers suddenly put down and set to hard work there will now and then be outbreaks of disease. There will now and then be shortcomings in administration; there will be unforeseen accidents to delay the excavation of the cut or the building of the dams and locks. Each such incident will be entirely natural, and, even tho serious, no one of them will mean more than a little extra delay or trouble. Yet each, when discovered by sensation mongers or befuddled timid folk of little faith, will serve as an excuse for the belief that the whole work is being badly managed. Experiments will continually be tried in housing, in hygiene, in street repairing, in dredging, and in digging earth and rock. Now and then an experiment will be a failure; and among those who hear of it, a certain proportion of doubting Thomases will at once believe that the whole work is a failure. Doubtless here and there some minor rascality will be uncovered; but as to this I have to say that after the most painstaking inquiry I have been unable to find a single reputable person who had so much as heard of any serious accusations affecting the honesty of the commission or of any responsible officer under it. It is not too much to say that the whole atmosphere of the commission is one of honesty as it breathes of efficiency and energy. Above all, the work has been kept absolutely clear of politics.

"I have investigated every complaint brought to me for which there seemed to be any shadow of foundation. In two or three cases, I came to the conclusion that there was foundation for the complaint, and that the methods of the commission in the respect complained of could be bettered. In the other instances the complaints proved absolutely baseless, save in two or three instances where they referred to mistakes which the commission had already itself found out and corrected.

Confident of Ultimate Success.

"Of the success of the enterprise I am as well convinced as one can be of any enterprise that is human. It is a stupendous work upon which our fellow countrymen are engaged down there on the isthmus, and the whole world is their debtor to a strict accountability for the way in which they perform it, we should yet recognize with frank generosity, the epic nature of the task on which they are engaged and its worldwide importance. They are doing something which will redound immeasurably to the credit of the nation, which will benefit all the world and which will last for ages to come. Under Mr. Shonts and Mr. Stevens and Dr. Gorgas this work has started with every omen of good fortune. They and their worthy associates, from the highest to the lowest, are entitled to the same credit that we would give to the picked men of a victorious army; for this conquest of peace will, in its great and far-reaching effect, stand as among the very greatest conquests, whether of peace or war, which have ever been won by any of the peoples of mankind. A badge is to be given to every American citizen who for a specified time has taken part in this work; for participation in it will hereafter be held to reflect honor upon the participant, just as it reflects honor upon a soldier to have belonged to a mighty army in a great war for righteousness. Our fellow-country men on the isthmus are working for our interest and for the national renown in the same spirit and with the same efficiency that the men of the army and navy work in time of war. It behooves us in our turn to do all we can to hold up their hands and to aid them in every way to bring their great work to a triumphant conclusion.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

"The White House, December 17, 1906."

ARTILLERY INEFFICIENT

Both Coast and Field Branches In Bad Shape.

Washington, Dec. 17.—"Both the coast and the field artillery are badly deficient in both personnel and material; neither is in even approximately proper condition for instruction in time of peace much less in condition for reasonably efficient service in war, and the time necessary to put either in the latter condition is not a matter of days, but of years."

Brigadier General Arthur Murray, chief of artillery, thus sums up the condition of his arm of the service in his annual report in which he says it can not be too strongly urged that appropriate legislation be obtained to make good the deficiencies and to correct the defects referred to.

The total cost of the present system of coast defense of the United States to February 27 last, General Murray says was $72,750,853, and the estimated cost to complete the defense of the United States, including estimates for ammunition and cost of sites, is $50,897,339. From these figures the deduction is made that considerably more than half the work of coast defense has been completed. The three elements of defense most needed, and which will secure the greatest measure of public safety at the least cost, General Murray says, are the completion of the installation of the approved system of range and position finding for all guns and mortars mounted; the providing of necessary searchlights for harbor defense at night, and the completion of the submarine mines equipment of all fortified harbors.

The proper defense of insular ports and the entrances to the Panama canal it is estimated will cost $19,873,895, in the case of the former, and $4,827,682 for the latter.

FOR SERVICE PENSIONS

Senator M'Cumber Is to Press Bill in Senate.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senator McCumber, chairman of the committee on pensions, is planning to press for early consideration by the senate the house general service pension bill as amended by the senate committee. The amendments provide that any soldier of the civil war who served for ninety days, was honorably discharged and who shall have reached the age of 62 years shall receive a pension of $12 a month, to be increased to $15 a month when he shall have reached the age of 70 years, and to $20 a month after he has reached the age of 75 years. It is estimated that an additional appropriation of $10,714,400 annually would be required to pay the increased rate provided by the bill to the soldiers now on the pension roll.

COMMANDER BROWN DEAD

Washington, Dec. 15.—Commander R. M. G. Brown, U. S. V., retired, a survivor of the Samoan hurricane, which destroyed the American fleet in 1588, died in this city yesterday.

LAND LAWS ARE FAULTY

So Says the President In a Special Message.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The President today transmitted to congress a special message on public lands, as follows:

"The developments of the past year emphasize, with increasing force, the need of vigorous and immediate action to recast the public land laws and adapt them to the actual situation. The timber and stone act has demonstrated conclusively that its effect is to turn over the public timber lands to great corporations. It has done enormous harm. It is no longer needed and it should be repealed.

"The desert land act results so frequently in fraud and so comparatively seldom in making homes on the land that it demands radical amendment. That provision which permits assignment before patent should be repealed, and the entryman should be required to live for not less than two years at home on the land before patent issues. Otherwise the desert land law will continue to assist speculators and other large holders to get control of land and water on the public domain by indefensible means.

"The commutation clause of the homestead act serves, in a majority of cases, to defeat the purpose of the homestead act itself, which is to facilitate settlement and create homes. In theory, the commutation clause should assist the honest settler, and doubtless in some cases it does so. Far more often it supplies the means by which speculators and loan and mortgage companies secure possession of the land. Actual—not constructive—living at home on the land for three years should be required before commutation, unless it should appear wiser to repeal the commutation clause altogether.

"I also call your attention to the extremely unsatisfactory condition of the public land laws and at the prevalence of fraud under their present provisions. For much of this fraud the present laws are chiefly responsible. There is but one way by which the fraudulent acquisition of these lands can be definitely stopped, and therefore I have directed the secretary of the interior to allow no patent to be issued to public land under any law until, by an examination on the ground, actual compliance with that law has been found to exist. For this purpose an increase of special agents in the general land office is urgently required; unless it is given bona fide would-be settlers will be put to grave inconvenience or else the fraud will, in large part, go on. Further, the secretary of the interior should be enabled to employ enough mining experts to examine the validity of all mineral land claims and undertake the supervision and control of the use of the mineral fuels still belonging to the United States. The present coal law limiting the individual entry to 160 acres puts a premium on fraud by making it impossible to develop certain types of coal fields and yet complying with the law. We should give individuals and corporations, under proper government regulation and control, the right to work bodies of coal land large enough for profitable development. My own belief is that there should be provision for leasing coal, oil and gas rights under proper restrictions. If the additional force of special agents and mining experts I recommend is provided and well used, the result will be not only to stop the land frauds but to prevent delays in patenting valid land claims and to conserve this indispensable fuel resources of the nation.

"Many of the existing laws affecting rights of way and privileges on public lands and reservations are illogical and unfair. Some work injustice by granting valuable rights in perpetuity without return. Others fail to protect the grantee in his possession of permanent improvements made at large expense. In fairness to the government, to the holders of rights and privileges on the public lands, and to the people whom the latter serve, I urge the revision and re-enactment of these laws in one comprehensive act, providing that the regulations and the charge now in force in many cases may be extended to all, to the end that unregulated or monopolistic control of great natural resources may not be acquired or misused for private ends."

The message also recommends: Permission to railroads to cut forests on their holding on national reserves under supervision; allowance of working capital to forest reserves; forest reserves on Indian lands, and control of grazing on government lands through the department of agriculture.

NEW MEMBERS SWORN

Straus Goes In; Metcalf and Bonaparte Move Up.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Oscar S. Straus, of New York, today was inducted into the office of secretary of the department of commerce and labor in pursuance of the rearrangement of the cabinet recently made by President Roosevelt.

The ceremony incident to the retirement of Secretary Metcalf, who has been at the head of the department since July 1, 1904, and the induction into office of Secretary Straus took place shortly after 9 o'clock this morning in the secretary's offices at the department. The oath of office was administered to Mr. Straus by Frank H. Larned, chief clerk of the bureau of immigration. Secretary Metcalf in relinquishing the duties of the office, formally expressed to those about him his great personal regret at the severance of relations which always had been so pleasant.

He assured them, however, that with the coming of Mr. Straus the cordial relations which he had had with the people of the department would be maintained by Secretary Straus.

Secretary Straus, in a brief address, expressed the desire to continue the present relations that existed between Secretary Metcalf and the officials of the department, and said that it would be his purpose so far as might be possible to continue the policies of his predecessor. He said he would take his cue from the President, one feature of whose great strength lies in the fact that he could depend upon and enlist the hearty co-operation of those about him.

At the conclusion of the addresses Secretary Straus and Secretary Metcalf held an informal reception of the bureau heads. Theodore L. Weeks, one of the clerks of the department, has been selected by Secretary Straus to be his private secretary. Leon A. Clark, who has been private secretary to Secretary Metcalf, will accompany Mr. Metcalf to the navy department and continue with him in a like capacity there.

Secretary Metcalf arrived at the navy department in company with Secretary Bonaparte at 10:15 o'clock. The oath of office was administered by Solicitor Hanna, of the navy department in the presence of Assistant Secretary Murray, of the department of commerce and labor, and the bureau chiefs of that department who went to the navy department in a body after Mr. Straus had been inducted into office.

Secretary Bonaparte in a brief address congratulated the new secretary upon the compliment implied upon his choice for the office of the secretary of the navy. No office, he said, exists of greater moment to the honor, the vital interest and even the national life of our common country.

Secretary Metc

REPORTS UNEXAGGERATED

President Takes Up Car Shortage Matter.

Washington, Dec. 18.—That President Roosevelt has taken a determined interest with a view to finding legislative remedy for the car shortage in the northwest which now threatens the people with freezing and starvation, because the railroads are unable to transport fuel and food to them, was indicated by a conference at the White House today. The President sent for Senator Hansbrough, and asked him whether the actual danger of suffering is as great as has been reported by press dispatches and telegrams from individuals. The North Dakota senator reported that from dispatches he has received the statement of conditions in his state, Minnesota and South Dakota has not been exaggerated. The President promised to give the matter his personal attention with a view to alleviating any immediate suffering, and said he desired Senator Hansbrough to devote time and thought to some legislative remedy in order to avoid occurrences of present conditions.

The plan Senator Hansbrough has in mind is the passage of a law which would compel the railroads to anticipate extraordinary movements of fuel, grain or other commodities and to prepare to take care of such shipments when offered. It has been suggested that the interstate commerce commission should investigate excessive offerings for shipment of commodities of all kinds and compel the railroads to furnish the transportation. It is believed by Senator Hansbrough that if a law of this character were passed the railroads would be able to contract for the use of equipment from roads in the south or other parts of the country when the demand for rolling stock is not great during the winter or the crop moving seasons. The North Dakota senator will endeavor to perfect a measure of a character calculated to reach the evil which annually results in immense financial loss to the farmer because of not being able to market his crop and actual suffering in winter by reason of not being able to get fuel.

MORMONS SPIT ON FLAG

So Declares Mrs. Dubois in Speech at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 18.—"Mormonism is a greater curse to the country than was slavery," declared Mrs. Fred T. Dubois, wife of the Idaho senator, in an address at Waugh M. E. church in this city on "The Effect of Mormonism on Education," late last night. She said that should President Roosevelt make a trip through southeastern Idaho he would no longer be willing to declare that there is nothing in the Mormon question. Six United States senators, she said, owe their election to the influence of the Mormon church. She criticised the attitude of Senator Proctor, of Vermont, and Senator Hopkins, of Illinois, for their attitude in the Smoot case. In closing her address Mrs. Dubois said:

"Mormon children in Utah and Idaho spit upon the American flag."

JAPS FEAR TORPEDOES

Squadron Will Not Visit 'Frisco Next Spring.

Honolulu, Dec. 18.—The Japanese consul here says that the visiting squadron which will arrive in Honolulu in February will not proceed to San Francisco, as originally intended, because a repetition of the Maine disaster is feared owing to the alleged overwrought condition of American feeling.

OKLAHOMA WILL SUBMIT

Delegates Decide That U. S. Constitution Is Supreme After All.

Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 18.—Notwithstanding the belief of certain radical members of the constitutional convention that the constitution of the United States is not paramount and supreme in the state, a bill of rights as reported to the convention yesterday declared that the constitution of the United States was the supreme law of the land. The bill of rights contained no unusual provisions. Freedom of religion and free speech were guaranteed. The state was forbidden to appropriate money for any religious sect or denomination or the representative of any religious creed. In all criminal prosecutions for libel, the written matter may be submitted as evidence and if it be shown that the publication was based upon good motives and for justifiable ends, the accused person shall be acquitted.

Quannah Parker, chief of the Comanche Indians, and a committee of chiefs of Kiowa, Comanche, Apache and Cheyenne Indians, appeared before the convention to protest against co-division and to ask the convention not to interfere with their customs or habits.

CHINESE SMUGGLERS RICH

Offer an Interpreter $7,000 to Falsify a Story.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 18.—That an organized band of smugglers for the importation of Chinese exists, amply supplied with funds for the corruption of officers, was developed at the trial at Las Crucis of 28 Chinese who were captured there, concealed in a box car, several days ago. They offered the official interpreter $7,000 yesterday if he would tell the court a story which would entitle them to remain in this country. They also told him that the headquarters of the syndicate engaged in wholesale smuggling of Chinese and forging of certificates was in San Francisco, and that the syndicate had an immense amount of money. The court ordered the 28 Chinese deported.

"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE"

Woman 105 Years Old Files Suit for Divorce.

Salina, Kas., Dec. 15.—Martha Hurt, aged 105 years, yesterday filed suit for divorce against her third husband, 15 years her junior, on the ground of extreme cruelty. She asserted that she drove her husband from home in 1898 because of his cruelty to her. She asked for the restitution of the name of Merill, her second husband's name.

KANSAS BEING TRIED.

Rockland, Me., Dec. 14.—The battleship Kansas, which made a satisfactory showing yesterday on her screw standardization trial, started today for a four hours' endurance run down the coast toward Cape Ann. On this run the battleship must show an average speed of 18 knots an hour, to meet her contract requirements. The ship is expected to arrive at Boston lightship about 3 o'clock, and after leaving the naval assistants there will at once proceed upon a 24-hour horsepower endurance run, which will carry her well down to the Delaware capes.

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CONGRESS GETS REPORT

President Sends It in With His Compliments.

Washington, Dec. 18.—President Roosevelt today transmitted to congress the following message, accompanying Secretary Metcalf's report on the San Francisco school controversy:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives:

"I inclose herewith for your information the final report made to me personally by Secretary Metcalf on the situation affecting the Japanese in San Francisco. The report deals with three matters of controversy—first, the exclusion of the Japanese children from the San Francisco schools; second, the boycotting of Japanese restaurants, and, third, acts of violence committed against the Japanese.

"As to the first matter, I call your especial attention to the very small number of Japanese children who attend school, to the testimony as to the brightness, cleanliness and good behavior of these Japanese children in the schools, and to the fact that, owing to their being scattered throughout the city, the requirement for them all to go to one special school is impossible of fulfilment and means that they cannot have school facilities. Let me go one step further that there would be no objection whatever to excluding from the schools any Japanese on the score of age. It is obviously not desirable that young men should go to school with children. The only point is the exclusion of the children themselves. The number of Japanese children attending the public schools in San Francisco was very small. The government has already directed that suit be brought to test the constitutionality of the act in question; but my very earnest hope is that such suit will not be necessary, and that as a matter of comity the citizens of San Francisco will refuse to deprive these young Japanese children of education and will permit them to go to the schools.

"The question as to the violence against the Japanese is most admirably put by Secretary Metcalf, and I have nothing to add to his statement. I am entirely confident that, as Secretary Metcalf says, the overwhelming sentiment of the state of California is for law and order and for the protection of the Japanese in their persons and property. Both the chief of police and the acting mayor of San Francisco assured Secretary Metcalf that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese in the city. I authorized and directed Secretary Metcalf to state that if there was failure to protect persons and property, then the entire power of the federal government within the limits of the constitution would be used promptly and vigorously to enforce observance of our treaty, the supreme law of the land, which treaty guaranteed to Japanese residents everywhere in the Union full and perfect protection for their persons and property; and to this end everything in my power would be done, and all the forces of the United States, both civil and military, which I could lawfully employ, would be employed. I call especial attention to the concluding sentence of Secretary Metcalf's report of November 26, 1906.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

In his report, Mr. Metcalf says:

"The Oriental school, the school set apart for the Chinese, Japanese and Korean children, is in the burned section. There is only one Japanese student attending this school at the present time, and there are no Japanese children attending any of the other public schools.

"An examination of the map of San Francisco will at once clearly show that it will be absolutely impossible for children residing in the remote sections of the city to attend the Oriental school. The conditions in San Francisco are such, owing to the great conflagration, that it is not possible even for grown children living at remote distances to attend this school. Even the action of the board stands, then, and if no schools are provided in addition to the one mentioned, it seems that a number of Japanese children will be prevented from attending the public schools and will have to resort to private instruction.

"I found the sentiment in the state very strong against Japanese young men attending the primary grades. Many of the people were outspoken in their condemnation of this course, saying that they would take exactly the same stand against American young men of similar ages attending the primary grades. I am frank to say that this objection seems to me a most reasonable one. All of the political parties in the state have inserted in their platforms planks favoring exclusion of Japanese and Korean exclusion, and on March 7, 1905, the state legislature past a joint resolution urging that action be taken by treaty or otherwise to limit and diminish the further immigration of Japanese laborers into the United States.

"The feeling in the state is further intensified, especially in labor circles, by the report on the conditions in the Hawaiian Islands as contained in Bulletin 66 of the Bureau of Labor, Department of Commerce and Labor. The claim is made that white labor has been almost entirely driven from the Hawaiian Islands, and that the Japanese are gradually forcing even the small white traders out of business.

"Many of the foremost educators in the state, on the other hand, are strongly opposed to the action of the San Francisco board of education. Japanese are admitted to the University of California, an institution maintained and supported by the state. They are also admitted to, and gladly welcomed at Stanford University. San Francisco, so far as known, is the only city which has discriminated against Japanese children.

"The objection to Japanese men attending the primary grades could very readily be met by a simple rule limiting the ages of all children attending those grades. All of the teachers with whom I talked while in San Francisco spoke in the highest terms of the Japanese children, saying that they were among the very best of their pupils, cleanly in their persons, well behaved, studious and remarkable bright.

"The board of education of San Francisco declined to rescind its resolution of October 11, declaring that, instead of established a separate school for Chinese, Japanese and Korean children, the provisions of section 1662 of the political code became mandatory."

Mr. Metcalf gave instances of boycotts and assaults directed at Japanese, and concluded:

"The chief of police of the city of San Francisco, as also the acting mayor of the city, assured me that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese subjects in San Francisco, and they urgently requested that all cases of assault and all violations of law affecting the Japanese be at once reported to the chief of police.

"I impress very strongly upon the acting mayor of the city, as also upon the chief of police, the gravity of the situation, and told them that, as officers charged with the enforcement of the law and the protection of property and person, you lookt to them to see that all Japanese subjects resident in San Francisco were afforded the full protection guaranteed to them by our treaty with Japan. I also informed them that if the local authorities were not able to cope with the situation, or if they were negligent or derelict in the performance of their duty, then the entire power of the federal government within the limits of the constitution would be used, and used promptly and vigorously, to enforce observance of treaties, which, under the constitution, are the supreme law of the land, and to secure fit and proper treatment for the people of a great and friendly power while within the territory of the United States.

"If, therefore, the police power of San Francisco is not sufficient to meet the situation and guard and protect Japanese residents in San Francisco, to whom, under our treaty with Japan, we guarantee 'full and perfect protection for their persons and property,' then, it seems to me, it is clearly the duty of the federal government to afford such protection. All considerations which may move a nation, every consideration of duty in the preservation of our treaty obligations, every consideration prompted by 50 years or more of close friendship with the empire of Japan, would unite in demanding, it seems to me, of the United States government and all its people, the fullest protection and the highest consideration for the subjects of Japan."

POLAND IS PACIFIED.

Warsaw, Russian Poland, Dec. 17.—Word received from various points throughout Russian Poland shows that the government's policy of firmness has been successful in subduing the last smoldering spark of revolution. This result was accomplished at a terrible cost to the Polish people, the number of victims being estimated at thousands. Business has become stagnant, the trades and industries are bankrupt and the masses are despirited and in poverty.

SWEDEN RATIFIES.

Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 17.—The Swedish government today ratified the Algeciras convention.

SPARKS SET OFF POWDER

Ten Thousand Pounds on a Train Let Go.

Bluefield, W. Va., Dec. 15.—The explosion of ten thousand pounds of powder, loaded on three mine cars and drawn by a mine motor, at Eckman, yesterday afternoon, caused the death of one person and the injury of nine others, two of them probably fatally. Joe Steele was killed, Alex Finney and Mrs. George Johnson were probably fatally injured and Edward Mullin, Tyler Harston, Felix Hardnett, George Bland, Oscar Cowns, C. W. Case and Mary Rhoades sustained serious injuries.

The men were on the powder laden cars and the women were in the houses near by. The powder was in tins and was being moved from a freight car to the magazine when sparks from the motor wheels or current from the motor set it off. The houses near by were torn into splinters and the detonation rocked the entire village. In a few moments hundreds had congregated and engaged in fighting the fire which broke out as soon as the explosion occurred. Some of the wounded were terribly burned, and several of them lost their eyes.

INGALLS IN FAVOR OF TAX

Speaks on Swollen Fortunes at New York Meeting.

New York, Dec. 13.—Melville E. Ingalls, of Cincinnati, was the principal speaker at the meeting of the American Civic Federation this morning. Mr. Ingalls' subject was the curbing of swollen fortunes. He traced their growth to special privileges, naming the railroad rebate and the tariff particularly. He proposed as remedies income and inheritance taxes and the limiting of power to devise by will.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, spoke at yesterday afternoon's session of the Federation, on "Evils of the Federal Injunction." He said in part:

"The people have lost their confidence in the judiciary because so many men have been imprisoned for doing things that they have a legal and constitutional right to do. If a judge—and I yield to no one in my regard for my country—were to enjoin me in something I believed I had a legal and moral right to do, I would violate that injunction. As an American I would preserve my liberty and that of my people even against federal judges.

"It has been our proud boast that no citizen might be deprived of his liberties except by a jury of his peers. By the injunction this feeling of security has largely disappeared and the American workingman has come to feel that his liberty is jeopardized. It is of little consequence to him what causes may be cited by lawyers. It is just a question of everyday labor with him.

"The workingman does not want his case submitted to the federal judge. I do not share entirely in his lack of confidence. But that very fear of partiality of the federacy is a matter of grave concern to the entire people of the country.

"It is very important that the people have confidence in the judiciary. That they have lost it is not to be gainsaid. Nor has this confidence been lost without justification.

"We hold that injunctions shall not be issued when there is adequate remedy at law; that a man shall not be sent to prison except by his peers. If this is so, the courts have gone very far in the exercise of federal power. We must seek to avoid the evils of the federal injunction."

Mr. Mitchell was vigorously applauded at the end of his speech.

Among the 250 persons present were Andrew Carnegie, Cornelius N. Bliss, Oscar S. Straus, Nicholas Murray Butler, Archbishop Ireland, Bishop Potter, ex-Governor David R. Francis, Henry Phipps, Clarence H. Mackay, Samuel Gompers, the Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, Clark Howell and James Speyer.

TO CONFER WITH MOODY

Standard's Novel Defense Calls Men to Washington.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—District Attorney Sims and J. H. Wilkerson, special assistant to Mr. Sims in the Standard Oil case, have been summoned by telegraph to Washington by Attorney General Moody for a conference on the case. The question of whether the Elkins law was repealed when the Hepburn railroad rate bill went into effect was raised in the arguments on the demurrers to the indictments, returned under the Elkins law, charging the oil company with accepting unlawful concessions from railroads. The conference in Washington, Mr. Sims said last night, will consider this question.

VICTORY OVER PULAJANES

Recent Fight Was More Important Than Was Supposed.

Manila, Dec. 12.—Full reports from the Island of Leyte show that the fight on December 5 between the troops and constabularly and a band of Pulajanes was an important victory for the government. Four Pulajanes leaders were killed, leaving only one important chief still at large. The bandits lost 43 killed. Major General Wood has ordered the troops of the Seventh cavalry to participate in the active pursuit of those who escaped. Those wounded in the encounter are improving.

Both the military and civil authorities predict an early cessation of the present trouble and Governor Smith regards the end of Pulajanism in Leyte as assured.

The campaign in Samar is progressing in a manner satisfactory to the government. Two or three rebellious bands have been dispersed, their leaders being either killed or captured.

General Wood believes the insurgent problem in Samar has been solved, but thinks there may be several more small engagements in Leyte before the trouble there is finally settled.

ECUADOR REBELS BEATEN

Government Troops Administer a Stinging Defeat.

Gauyaquil, Dec. 12.—It is officially announced that the government troops commended by Col. Paez have defeated the rebels near the River Azoguez. Colonel Vega, the leader of the rebellion, with 32 of his followers was captured. Senor Cardova, ex-minister of the interior, who was Vega's second in command, escaped with the rebels who were not captured. After the battle Paez was proclaimed a general. No details have been received of the numbers of killed or wounded.

The president of Colombia, General Reyes has telegraphed to President Alfaro, of Ecuador, assurances that Colombia will maintain the strictest neutrality during the revolution in this country and will prevent Colombia from invading Ecuador in order to join the revolutionists. This step of the Colombian president is considered to be a severe blow to the revolutionists, who expected considerable reinforcements from Colombia.

RELIEF FOR CHINA.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Red Cross headquarters here is taking steps to ascertain the exact condition of the famine sufferers in China, and if the information derived indicates that the famine is really as bad as reported, it is probable that some relief measures will be taken. One of the measures under consideration is the dispatch to China of one or more cargoes of American grain, which, it is believed, the western farmers will cheerfully contribute if sufficient funds can be collected to defray the cost of chartering steamships for its carriage.

30 TERRORISTS CAUGHT.

Moscow, Dec. 17.—Thirty members of the revolutionary fighting organization were arrested today in the Basmanoff quarter of the city. Large stocks of arms, ammunition, dynamite and bombs were seized.

DEATH BLOW IS GIVEN

President Yields to Clamor Against Simplified.

Washington, Dec. 14. — President Roosevelt will withdraw his simplified spelling order to the public printer and hereafter all documents from the executive departments will again be printed in the old-fashioned style.

Representative Landis, of the joint committee on spelling, had a conference yesterday with the President, when the President said that he did not wish to have spelling overshadow matters of great importance and expressed a willingness to revoke his order for the new spelling in case the house of representatives should go on record as opposed to the system. Accordingly, late in the afternoon Mr. Landis introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the house of representatives that hereafter in presenting reports, documents, or other publications authorized by law, ordered by congress or either branch thereof, or emanating from the executive departments, their bureaus or branches, and independent officers of the government, the government printing office should observe and adhere to the standard of orthography prescribed in generally accepted dictionaries of the English language."

The measure was passed without a dissenting vote, although Mr. Gillett, of Massachusetts, who made a fight for simplified spelling before the house committee on appropriations and has been regarded as the champion of the President's attitude, explained that he did not wish to give the impression that he had changed his mind. Mr. Gillett said he saw that the house was overwhelmingly against the innovation and consequently he bowed to its will.

The system of reform spelling was put into effect by the President during the recess of congress, and all public documents supplied to the executive departments have been printed in the simplified way. These documents have been pouring in on congress ever since the opening day, much to the dissatisfaction of a large majority of the members of the house. As a result, the government printing office was using two forms of spelling in public priuting, the staid method for congress, and the reform method in the executive documents. This caused a confusion and comment unfavorable to the reform and finally was made an issue between the legislative and the executive departments, the judicial department having previously frowned upon the President's order.

NO DESIGNS ON BRAZIL

Germany Is Not Stimulating Emigration There.

Washington, Dec. 13.—A recent government report has revived the question as to whether or not Germany actually was aiding in the establishment of her subjects in Brazil. The publication was made on the authority of representatives of American business interests who alleged that Germany was offering special exemption from military service to all these who go to Rio Grande Do Sul.

The German embassy took the matter up with the home government, but the reply received did not confirm the statements. It was said that no exemptions of the kind referred to had been made and that the emigration to Brazil from Germany of late years had been very small, only three hundred and thirty having gone there in 1905 and a considerably less number during the present year.

That Brazil, however, looks upon the German settlers as being most desirable citizens, even of the law, was made evident today when Ambassador Nabuco declared that his country wanted more of them.

"I hope," he said, "a million or more of them will emigrate there. They have done good work in Brazil, and I trust Germany will grant the exemptions from military service referred to in order to encourage that kind of immigration to my country."

WOULD TAX PROFESSIONS

Attorney General Ellis Proposes a Novelty.

Columbus, Dec. 14.—In a speech before the state chamber of commerce last night, Attorney General Wade H. Ellis, a member of the state taxation commission, advocated the taxing of professions, such as physicians, lawyers, etc.

In a lengthy discussion of proposed changes in the state's tax system he said:

"It is generally admitted that the tax laws of Ohio need revision; that they are inequitable, unscientific and illogical in the imposition of the burdens of the state and local government. It is generally admitted; first, that personal property is becoming more and more illusive when the tax gatherer comes around; second, that such forms of intangible personal property as moneys and credits might properly be taxed at a lower rate than other classes of property, to the advantage of the state and the salvation of the souls of their owners; third, that corporations particularly do not pay a fair share of the taxes and that some method of reaching franchises would be a fair venture for the state; fourth, that the levy upon real and personal property for purely state purposes might well be abolished; fifth, an evil lying at the very base of all systems of property taxation is the incompetency of assessors, and that one of the first things to do is to attract to these places a better class of men; sixth, that tax on professions, such as those of the lawyer, doctor, dentist, civil engineer and others, would be a wise departure; seventh, that the direct inheritance tax should be revived, and especially if a larger exemption and a graduated rate could be sustained; eighth, that an income tax is after all, as fair and equitable as any."

LEVYING ON THE GREEKS

Band of Bulgarian Extortioners In This Country.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Charges that an organized band of Bulgarians has endeavored to levy upon 100,000 Greeks now in this country, particularly those coming from Macedonia, for funds to aid the Bulgarians in carrying on their feud against the Macedonian Greeks, were made today by George H. Tsolomiti, Greek vice consul, who has been for the last two months investigating the matter.

Mr. Tsolomiti, who is stationed on the Pacific coast, left today for Terre Haute, Ind., where two of the alleged Bulgarian conspirators are to be tried for attempting to extort money from Naoum Demetrios, a baker of that city. It is asserted that attempts have been made by the Bulgarians to extort money from Greeks in various parts of the country, the Bulgarians threatening them with death if they did not pay the money demanded. It is said the two men to be tried at Terre Haute have admitted that they have attempted to obtain money by threats in various parts of the United States, and that they are part of a band organized to collect tribute from the Greeks.

WANTS WHITE FARMERS

Louisiana Starts Importing Laborers From Europe.

New Orleans, Dec. 14.—The Louisiana agricultural and immigration commission has announced that, pursuant to plans for securing desirable white agriculturists from Europe to work Louisiana plantations a start has been made with 35 Russians. Ten of them were sent out upon truck farms, the others going to railroad construction camps.

NEED MAGAZINE SHIPS

Battle Would Exhaust Ammunition in an Hour.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Declaring that in the design of vessels of the battle fleet the space and weight assigned to ammunition has been so restricted that the ammunition on board, under certain conditions of battle would be expended in less than an hour, Rear Admiral N. F. Mason, chief of the bureau of ordnance, in his annual report urges the building of two vessels of considerable size, one on the Atlantic and one on the Pacific coast, devoted exclusively to the carriage of ammunition, and he states that ultimately there should be one of these vessels with each fleet. They should be so fitted with appliances for assembling and breaking down ammunition that they might serve to as great a degree as possible as floating magazines. The lessons drawn from the war with Spain, Admiral Mason says, lead him to also recommend the equipping of an axiliary vessel for use as a machine shop and store vessel with the fleet. In explaining his estimates for a considerably increased appropriation for target practice Admiral Mason calls attention to the fact that he anticipates there will be in full or partial commission during the fiscal year 1908, twenty-four battleships, twelve first class cruisers, sixty-six second and third rate vessels, sixty torpedo boats and fifteen auxiliaries, making a total of one hundred and seventy-seven vessels. This, he says, represents an increase of thirty-eight vessels over the present fiscal year.

A marked departure from all previous designs, Admiral Mason says, is represented in the turret mounts for the 12-inch guns of the South Carolina and Michigan, which, it is stated, will operate to increase the rapidity of fire.

A new type of turret sight also has been developed for installation in these two ships, and it is stated that a new type of sight for broadside gun is in a preliminary stage of design, this being likewise a marked departure from existing models. Especial attention is called to the batteries of the Iowa, Brooklyn, and other vessels, and Admiral Mason says that unless they are equipped with modern guns, mounts and sights, they can no longer be considered efficient vessels and fit for service.

On the subject of armor, it is stated that the standard of quality required by the bureau is still met in a most satisfactory manner, while experiments with high explosives as bursting charges for shells have progressed sufficiently to justify the expectation that such an explosive can be adopted in the near future. The close relations with the ordnance department of the army are referred to, and in this connection Admiral Mason regards it as very desirable that the material used by the two departments as far as possible should be identical in order to admit of interchange in time of war. Efforts, he says, will be continued along this line. Considerable attention is paid to the government smokeless powder factory at Indian Head, Md., the output of which the last year is stated to have been 1,001,699 pounds.

With the competition of the supluric acid plant there, it is believed that in the near future the government will be entirely independent of outside sources for the supply of mixed acids. As the result of experiments a new 3-inch gun, semi-automatic, will be placed aboard all future ships.

TO DO AWAY WITH WAR

Ohio Grange's Message to Roosevelt.

Canton, O., Dec. 14.—Before adjourning, the Ohio State Grange last night ordered the following message sent to President Roosevelt:

"We respectfully ask you to urge that the second conference at The Hague continue its session with only short recess, until it induces the Christian nations, at least, to sign a wise general peace and arbitration treaty for settling all disputes without war."

The expected opposition of F. A. Derthick, of Mantua, for worthy master, developed in the person of R. W. Dunlap, state dairy and food commissioner-elect. His support was not strong enough, however, as Derthick was elected on the first ballot by a vote of 57 to 36. The next place of meeting will be chosen later.

GREAT STATE SURPLUS

Aikin Law Puts It Up Higher Than Ever Before.

Columbus, O., Dec. 17.—The report of the condition of the state treasury at the close of business last week, as made to Gov. Harris by the state auditor today, shows a larger surplus than ever before—$4,750,356.39. The record was $4,500,000 in 1903, due to refunders of war expenses of the state by the federal government. The receipts from Dow taxes and property taxes now about to begin will no doubt run the surplus up to nearly six millions by Jan. 31, 1907. The Aikin law is largely the cause of the large surplus now.

SUFFRAGETTES IN A RIOT

Women Try to Hold Another Meeting in the 'Ouse.

London, Dec. 14.—The female suffragists made another attempt last evening to hold a meeting within the precincts of the house of commons, and as a result five women and one man were arrested after an exciting fight with the police. The gathering was arranged by the women workers of Manchester and East London, who assembled in strong force. The police were taken unawares and some women got within the entrance to the house before their object was detected. When the police finally barred the entrances, the women tried to hold their meeting in the palace yard. A force of constables was then summoned to eject them. The women fought wildly, scratching and kicking the officers, but they were eventually compelled to give way. Those who persisted in resisting were carried screaming to the nearest police station. They were charged under the old law against attempting to hold a meeting within a mile of the house of parliament while the commons is in session.

BIG BLIZZARD IN DAKOTA

Snow Stops Railroad Traffic and Suffering Is Expected.

Grand Forks, N. D., Dec. 14.—A blizzard, raged last night in western North Dakota, blowing snow into railroad cuts. The Great Northern railway between York and Leeds is impassable. Large objects were invisible a car length away through the blinding storm.

No trains arrived from the west last night, and all are reported indefinitely late. A passenger train on the Fargo & Aneta line is reported stalled and half drifted under. The St. Paul, Minneapolis & Sault Ste. Marie railroad is tied up all the way west of Ardoch. No attempt is made to move freights. The fuel situation in the small towns is critical, only an occasional carload having arrived. Much suffering is experienced.

SAFETY TO ABYSSINIA.

London, Dec. 14.—Great Britain, France and Italy have signed an arrangement with the approval of Menelik, king of Abyssinia, for the maintenance of the integrity of Abyssinia and prescribing the common action of three powers in all future contingencies concerning that country.

FAILED IN THEIR DUTY

Major and Captain of Negro Troops to Be Tried.

Washington, Dec. 15.—On the recommendation of the general staff the secretary of war has ordered the trial by court-martial of Major Charles W. Penrose and Captain Edgar A. Macklin, of Company C, First battalion, Twenty-fifth infantry, under the sixty-second article of war for "conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline" in failing in their duty in preventing and suppressing the riot at Brownsville, Texas, last August.

The specifications will include, among other things, the charge that the two officers named failed to exercise due diligence in preventing the occurrence when the condition of affairs at Brownsville made it necessary that all proper precautions should be taken to prevent a clash between the troops and citizens; and also that they did not examine the rifles of the men until daylight, although they learned of the true state of affairs by 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning.

The details as to the membership of the court and the place where the trial will be held have been left to the discretion of the commanding officer of the department of Texas.

BURNHAM GETS 2 YEARS

Convicted Mutual Reserve Man Is Sentenced.

New York, Dec. 17.—George Burnham, Jr., general counsel for the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company, recently convicted of larceny, today was sentenced to serve two years in state prison. Sentence was passed by Justice Greenbaum in the supreme court.

Justice Greenbaum, after passing sentence, granted a stay until next Thursday, when counsel will present an appeal.

The specific charge upon which Burnham was tried and convicted was the larceny of $7,500 of the company's funds by paying that amount to counsel representing James D. Wells in settlement of a loan of $5,575 alleged to have been made by Wells to President Frederick A. Burnham. President Burnham and George D. Eldrige are now awaiting trial. They are at liberty under bonds of $20,000 and $15,000, respectively.

TYPHOID IN PITTSBURG

Hospitals Are Crowded and Disease Is Increasing.

Pittsburg, Dec. 14.—Owing to the crowded condition of all the hospitals throughout the city the bureau of health authorities have been compelled to place typhoid fever patients in the municipal hospital, nine cases afflicted with that disease being there now. There is room only for 11 more typhoid patients in the hospitals, and if the present rate of such cases keeps up that many more patients will be admitted. The smallpox ward has been turned over to the fever patients. Thirty-eight cases were reported to the health bureau yesterday. It is estimated that at least 400 persons are ill with typhoid fever in Pittsburg alone; with Allegheny and the boroughs of Allegheny county this number is about doubled. The health reports of Pittsburg have shown a daily increase for several weeks in the number of such cases. City Physician Booth states that there is no epidemic, but that typhoid fever is always prevalent here. He attributes the present increase to the carelessness of persons in drinking unboiled water.

BRITANNIA STAR GAZING

England Would Rule the Air as Well as the Sea.

London, Dec. 14.—According to the Standard, Great Britain is extensively experimenting with air machines for military purposes. Investigation is being made of every machine of proved utility, including foreign machines, with the view to securing command of the air in the next generation.

An airship is being tested at Aldershot, which, according to the Standard, affords ready evidence that such a craft may relegate the navies of the world, excepting submarine boats, to the scrap heap. Experiments are also being made with a steerable kite, the invention of Sapper Voisey, which is capable of dropping explosives. It is bird shaped and has movable wings and a steering tail. It is propelled by electricity conveyed by a fine cable.

HE WAS WEDDED BY PROXY

Cleveland Man Will Soon Have Bride From Germany.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—Stephen Kotz, who is described as a prosperous young carpenter of Cleveland, Ohio, has just been married at Marburg by proxy to a farmer's pretty daughter, his childhood sweetheart.

Kotz emigrated a few years ago, and was too busy to come back to be married. He asked a former comrade to give undertakings at the altar on his behalf.

CLERICALS ARE PACIFIED

New Separation Law Likely to Soothe French Waters

Paris, Dec. 17.—Interviews with ecclesiastics, as well as the tone of the clerical press, indicate a fairly favorable reception of the government's bill amending the church and state separation law of 1905, introduced in the chamber of deputies December 15, and the prevalence of the belief that it will prove acceptable to the church, as it places the clergy under a real regime of the common law.

BIG PRICE FOR RAPHAEL

Berlin, Dec. 15.—Raphael's portrait of the brother of Pope Leo X., date 1514, has been sold to Oscar Huuldhchinsky a mine owner, for $100,000, a record price in the Berlin art world.

JEREMIAH CURTIN DEAD.

Bristol, Vt., Dec. 15.—Jeremiah Curtin, a distinguished linguist and philologist, and well known also as a translator of Russian and Polish novels, died here today of Bright's disease. Mr. Curtin was 66 years old.

THE MARKETS.

Weekly Trade Report.

New York, Dec. 15.—Dispatches to Dun's Review indicate that, even with the great rush of holiday trade, general business is well maintained and manufacturing activity is at a high point. Boston reports that weather conditions favor distribution of clothing and winter merchandise, while holiday trade is far above last year's and manufacturing plants operate freely. In some manufacturing lines at Philadelphia there is scarcity of labor, and building operations are heavy, while glass plants work actively and most textile mills are busy. Mercantile lines continue active at Pittsburg and holiday purchases are large and early.

Pressure upon steel mills and car shops at Chicago will make the holiday shutdown extremely short. Lake navigation is practically closed and there is still complaint of railway blockades, while weaker conditions are conditive to Christmas trade. Retail trade and collections are only fair. Holiday goods move freely at Cleveland, and retail trade is satisfactory in all branches, while collections improve. Business at Omaha continues brisk in most lines, although the weather is not seasonably cold. Weather conditions are favorable for retail trade at St. Paul, and there is a large movement of Christmas specialties. Wholesalers at Minneapolis report the largest holiday trade on record and retail sales of staples increase with the cold. Retail trade at Portland, Ore., is stimulated in holiday lines, but jobbing sales are smaller, partly because of inadequate railway facilities. Business conditions are satisfactory at Los Angeles, farm products bringing good prices.

Bank clearings still show a larger volume of settlements through the banks at nearly every city in the United States than in December last year, or the year before, though trade was exceptionally active in both preceding years. A small loss at New York city, due to a greatly reduced volume of settlements through the banks on account of stock market operations, causes a small loss aggregate of bank clearings, and total exchanges this week at all leading cities in the United States are $3,045,847,886, .02 per cent. less than last year, but 2.4 per cent. larger than in the corresponding week of 1904. There is also a small loss at Boston and New Orleans, but at every other city included a great gain is shown. For the first half of the month average daily exchanges are $524,904,000 against $519,157,000 last year and $515,205,000 in 1904, indicating a well-sustained volume of business in each year.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, O., Dec. 18.—Wheat was influenced this morning by the weak close of yesterday, and the opening was dull and lower. The cables and curb were both unchanged. The near months were steady at 76¾c, while the futures were ¼c down at 81c and 79¼c. Liverpool was steady at the start, but later in the day some selling and more liberal offerings of LaPlata cargoes caused ¼d slump. Towards noon the American markets had generally regained their early losses and a good undertone was noticed. The visible supply showed a large increase this week, against a decrease both a week ago and a year ago.

The firm tone of the opening, together with unusually light receipts, caused a stir among short traders toward noon and resulted in the close being ¼c up throughout the list, with cash and December at 77c, May 81¼c and July 79¾c.

Corn was steady and some higher, with a good feeling existing despite the weak opening in wheat. Corn cables were steady and resulted in good American prices. Cash opened at 43½c, December at 43c, May ¼c up at 44¾c, and July steady at 45½c. At noon the feeling was still strong, but May had lost a trifle. Liverpool corn was unchanged both at the opening and at noon, the steadiness being attributed to the unsatisfactory American grading. The visible supply was increased largely over last week and but little less than a year ago.

Nervous shorts also affected this market and the close was 1c up in the near months at 44½c and 44c, while May was ⅛c up at 44⅞c and July ¼c up at 45¾c. Receipts were large today and shipments also, which, with the large amount of short covering, were boosters at the close.

Light receipts of oats kept the market steady and unchanged at the opening, while small trading at noon had little to say, prices firm. Cash and December were 36¾c, May 38c and July 36c.

This market was in strong hands after the first few hours of trade. Trading grew more brisk, also, toward the close, which was 4c up in the near months at 37c and ¼c up in the futures at 38¼c and 36¼c.

Some selling orders early in the day and the light demand were responsible for a 2½c break in the clover seed market, which was at $8.32½ in the near months, $8.35 in January, $8.40 in February and $8.45 in March. Receipts today were 265 bags against 350 bags a year ago, shipments 100 bags today and receipts of alsike 25 bags.

More offerings later in the day caused a five-cent break at the close, which is the lowest point touched in the seed market for some time. At the close the near months were $8.27½. January $8.30, February $8.35 and March $8.40.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow are 275 bags of seed and 20 bags of alsike.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Dec.18.	Dec.17
Wheat—					
Cash	76¾	76¾	76¾	76¾	76¾
Dec....	76¾	76⅞	76¾	76⅞	76¾
May	81	81¼	81	81¼	80¾
July	79½	79⅝	79½	79¾	79⅝
Corn—					
Cash	43½	44¼	43½	44½	43½
Dec.	43	43¾	43	44	43
May	44¾	44⅞	44¾	44⅞	44½
July	45½	45⅝	45½	45⅝	45½
Oats—					
Cash	36¾	37	36¾	37	36¾
Dec.	36¾	37	36¾	37	36¾
May	38	38⅛	38	38⅛	38
July	36	....	....	36⅛	36
Clover Seed—					
Cash	8.32½